

The PRODUCER

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Official Organ of the
AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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F. EDSON WHITE,
President, Armour and Company.

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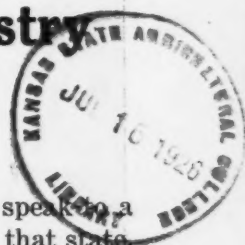
DENVER, COLORADO, JULY, 1926

Number 2

Historical Sketch of the Karakul Sheep Industry

BY DR. C. C. YOUNG

Ysleta, Texas



WHEN THEODORE ROOSEVELT returned from the Spanish-American War in 1898, I was a boy eighteen years of age who had just come to the United States from Russia, running away from school as the result of what I deemed a too rigorous discipline. It was only with considerable difficulty that I made myself understood. When on one of Roosevelt's speech-making trips he crossed the State of North Dakota, as the running mate of William McKinley, I was permitted to accompany the

great man, and managed to induce him to speak to a group of German Russians at Dickinson in that state.

I explained to him that one of my relatives lived in the Caucasus of Asia Minor, where he had settled on account of his great interest in fur-bearing sheep. The attention of this relative was principally centered upon the Karakul breed, which produces the furs known by the trade names of Persian lamb, astrakhan, baby lamb, unborn lamb, broadtail, and gray krimmer. While the natives of that particular sec-



MATURE KARAKUL RAMS

These rams form the basis of Dr. Young's flock and are now on his ranch at El Paso, Texas.
Note much-desired coarse fleece.



DR. C. C. YOUNG

Holding a Karakul lamb on his ranch at El Paso

tion—the wild and treacherous Kurds—were able to produce a very pretty lamb fur obtained from the Karachaev and Osetin breeds, they could never produce a fur with tight, worm-like curls except where they were able to cross their sheep with Karakul rams, which were occasionally supplied to them by Persians from northern Persia, especially from the vicinity of Badgediran—only about forty kilometers from Askabad, the capital of Transcaspia, central Asia. Many a Persian engaged in this trade lost his life, as these sheep are indigenous to a small section of Transcaspia—the country of the Turkoman robbers. They are also obtained from southern Bokhara and a small section of northwestern Afghanistan.

Difficulty of Obtaining Pure-Bred Sheep

Years of effort, and the expenditure of thousands of dollars, did not produce for my relative one single pure-bred Karakul ram. The same thing was true of an uncle of mine, who lived among the Tartars of the Crimea, where he was obliged to confine his operations to the Malitch breed, which in some instances contains a sprinkling of Karakul blood as the result

of grade Karakuls having been brought into that country by the Kurds from Kurdistan.

While I was still a mere boy, my curiosity was aroused by the stories of hardships experienced by relatives and friends in quest of Karakul sheep. Especially was that true of my uncle, who fought under General Kaufmann when the Turkoman robbers were defeated at Fort Geok Tepe in Transcaspia over fifty years ago.

I related these experiences of my folks to Mr. Roosevelt, telling him that I hoped some day to accomplish the seemingly impossible and import some Karakul sheep from Bokhara and Bessarabia, European Russia (now a part of Roumania), and that in time I hoped to see this breed of sheep represented in the United States. Mr. Roosevelt seemed immensely pleased when I told him that I expected to become the owner of a ranch before I had lived many years in the United States, and that then, with his help, I would make an effort to get into central Asia and import some of these wonderful animals. Little did I realize then that this would require expeditions costing thousands of dollars, besides special passports and numberless concessions extremely difficult to obtain, and for which I had to have the assistance of three presidents of the United States, the consent of the czar's leading ministers, and the permission of the emir of Bokhara.



HALF-BLOOD KARAKUL LAMBSKIN

Known under trade name of "Persian Lamb Fur." Note tight, pipe-like-closed curls, upon which depends value.

Prohibition against Importation of Live Stock from Asia

What proved to be the greatest obstacle, however, was a federal law which prohibited the importation of live stock into the United States from Asia. But for the intercession of Roosevelt and J. A. Tawney, when I landed in this country in 1908 with my first Karakuls, the entire flock would have been killed by our Bureau of Animal Industry. Three years later, as the result of tests made by that bureau, I was permitted to bring another flock to this country. The third expedition was the most costly, requiring the expenditure of some \$50,000. This proved to be a stupendous task, as it meant the crossing of the Kara Kum Desert, the inhabitants of which belong to the wildest and most uncivilized people in the world. As the natives there inbreed their stock, it was necessary to put large distances between the specimens selected, in order to establish unrelated strains.

In 1916 our government came out with a twenty-five-page bulletin on the Karakul sheep, and the fourth expedition was organized, wholly financed in the city of El Paso, Texas. As a result of the World War, however, this venture met with failure.

My first flock was taken to my ranch near Wichita Falls, Texas. But when I learned of the tremendous yield of alfalfa in the El Paso Valley, even before the water was at all times sure (the Elephant Butte Dam at that time not having been completed), I moved my sheep to my ranch near El Paso. Here also subsequent importations were installed.

While in West Turkestan I learned of alfalfa seed having been sent on many occasions to the United States—particularly to the West and Southwest. When the natives in the Murgab Valley bragged about an annual yield of two or three tons to the acre, I did not dream that the seed of the same alfalfa transported to the El Paso Valley would yield as high as ten tons per acre.

Texas Cotton Owes Hardiness to Asiatic Strain

Professor Borodin, now in this country, is authority for the statement that the cotton of the El Paso Valley owes its remarkable quality and hardiness to the cotton seed imported from Andijan. It would probably be impossible to make the native cotton-growers of Turkestan believe that as high as three bales have been made on an acre of land in the above-named valley, while the average in the Asiatic country scarcely reaches a quarter of a bale. It is doubtful if there is any richer land anywhere than one can find in the valleys of the Sir Daria, Amudaria, Zaravshan, and Murgab Rivers, unless it be along the Nile and in the El Paso territory. But while in America we enjoy the most modern agricultural implements and the best of working stock, the Sart in his native

country plows with a grade yak or a camel, or even with burros, and his plow consists entirely of wood, enabling him barely to scratch the soil. There is little doubt but that some day, when American ingenuity reaches that country, Texas will have to quit raising cotton, as the natives throughout Turkestan work for practically nothing, and the cotton can be produced there for a tenth of what it costs in the United States.



HIS EXCELLENCY THE KUSHBEGI
Minister of the Interior of Bokhara

Between 1908 and 1915 I brought in all sixty-eight head of Karakuls to the United States. According to the "Annual Yearbook" of 1915, issued by the Department of Agriculture, I am the only man who ever imported a Karakul sheep into this country. Today Karakuls are raised in most of the states.

Karakul Breeders' Association Formed

In 1923 a meeting of Karakul breeders was called, which resulted in the formation of the American National Karakul Breeders' Association, of which the writer is president. The meeting was held in Denver. On the executive committee we find breeders from the following states and foreign countries: Colorado, California, South Dakota, Texas, New York, Kansas, Michigan, New Mexico, Ohio, Canada, Mexico, and Manchuria. On account of its accessibility to the breeders of Mexico, El Paso has been made the headquarters of the association.

The Karakul sheep industry has had its ups and downs; but now that the experimental stage is over there is no doubt about its future, even though there are a few years of hard work ahead of the association before its organization is perfected. The demand for Karakul skins in the United States and Canada runs into millions of dollars annually. That we can produce the desired lambskins in the first cross with some of our domestic coarse-wool breeds is a fact that is no longer open to doubt.

Travels in Central Asia Beset with Dangers

Of the many adventures crowding my several journeys into the home land of the Karakul, with its treacherous natives and almost insurmountable obstacles to any form of decent travel, the limited space of THE PRODUCER will not permit me to give more than a mere hint. Bribing, cajoling, bluffing my way—in one instance compelled to resort to the tactics of a highway robber—I finally did accomplish my purpose through a combination of the stratagems for which the one put in tight places soon develops a faculty, and sheer good luck. The following account, copied from the periodical *Travel* of August, 1920, describes how I got around one difficulty:

A few days later, early in March, 1914, I learned of the severe illness of the son of Izman Bek Datcho of Karshi, a great favorite with the emir. I promptly petitioned the Russian ambassador to arrange an audience for me with the emir, to whom I offered my medical services gratis if I were permitted to go to Karshi. An expedition was hurriedly fitted out, and I had my first experience of traveling in a Bokhara *arba*—a two-wheeled cart to which horses or camels are hitched.

The vice-emir received me the day before we started, and assured me that the fastest horses were assigned, and that his most trusted man, Mirza Bashi, would accompany me. There were some twenty men on horseback and several more *arbas* in our caravan at the start, but before we reached the first oasis at Karaool this number trebled. It resembled a royal progress. At Karaool I was given a handsome welcome by the *bek* and a dinner consisting of Bokhara flour candy, dried fruits, grapes, genuine Russian samovar tea, and *plof* (a mixture of mutton, rice, raisins, and spices). But the diet was beginning to tell on me. At New Bokhara I had procured some ham, and the next morning I instructed my cook, Barat, a black Karakirgiz, to prepare some genuine ham and eggs. The eggs came forth, but, alas, no ham. On investigation I found it had been thrown away on the road, as it is a great sin among the natives even to look at the meat of the swine—*shaitani* they style it, meaning something devilish.

Travel conditions were frightful. The road, a mere camel trail, was terrible, and after we left there for Kasan I noticed the absence of horses—camels and burros taking their places. News of the coming of the American magician had preceded us. At all the stations I was met by the officials of the various *kishlaks*, who were accompanied by sick men—mostly eye cases. Not one single woman, however, made her appearance. When he turned in at the caravan *serai*, and when the *aksakal* of Chodja Uncarek asked me to prescribe for one of his wives, and I requested the privilege of an examination, I nearly lost my life. I had forgotten that it is a great insult to ask to see

an unveiled woman. In fact, I never saw a single unveiled Bokhara Moslem woman during all the months I traveled in this country.

At this *kishlak* I lost my old friend, Michael Alexseeoitch Stamatoff, a *gagauzi* from Bessarabia who accompanied me and who was the druggist of the expedition. He was bitten presumably by the deadly *kara-kurt* bug or by a very poisonous snake. A skirmish with desert robbers, fighting the dread blood disease *pendinka* which I contracted before I reached Karshi, and a narrow escape from death by starvation left an indelible imprint upon my memory.

At Karshi I was entertained by the emir's most trusted *bek*, and saved his son's life by removing his appendix. Fortunately I was not told before I operated that my head would be chopped off if I failed.

FEELING THE MARKET PULSE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

JULY MARKS THE INCEPTION of the changing season in cattle circles. From now on grass becomes a factor, increasing the supply of cheap beef and widening the spread between common and good cattle. Present conditions, however, are somewhat abnormal, due to the heavy preponderance of corn-fed steers in the weekly supply, relatively light receipts of grassers from the Southwest, and a paucity of cheap cows measured by current demand for that kind of meat. This condition is represented by an unseasonably narrow spread between common cow and choice steer product. Swift publishes these figures weekly, and they are enlightening. During the last week of June this spread, based on sales at Chicago, was only 8 cents per pound. Dressed cow carcasses, common to good, sold at 10 to 14 cents; common to medium steer carcasses, at 13 to 15 cents; and good to choice steers, at 15½ to 18 cents; the average selling value of the entire package—cows and steers—being 14.49 cents per cwt., which has shown little variation from week to week for several months past.

How long present unbalanced beef-supply conditions will exist is anybody's guess. Not only is the country full of corn, but enough cattle are munching it to insure full coolers for many weeks to come, if not all through the season. An unabated movement of thin cattle into the corn area has been ignored by statisticians, and to some extent by the trade. Probably a large percentage of the steers acquired since April are on the yearling order, which will be to the distinct advantage of owners when they come to market. Possibly by the end of July the weekly gob of heavy cattle at Chicago will diminish to a point where better action, if not prices, will be possible, but repetition of the market for heavy cattle during the latter half of 1925 is impossible. The types that have been selling at \$10 to \$10.50 may work to a level \$2 higher, but at the inception of July this development was improbable for some time to come, as many heavy bullocks had been turned out on grass to nurse an invalid market, the provoking feature of heavy-cattle trade being a disposition to congest whenever a load or so in excess of what eastern orders actually called for reached the market.

As the season works along, a wider spread will be logical. This may be accomplished either by marking up prices of good cattle or by scaling down quotations on low-grade steers and female stock, or both. While the market requires variety, demand is notoriously fickle—frequently inexplicable. That the public is buying light beef admits of no dispute. There is a goodly crop of yearlings—calves that went into feeders' hands last fall—in the finishing stage, and they will be marketed in superb condition, owing to corn plenitude. Yearlings and heavy cattle will probably sell close to a parity all through the

season, but light cattle will hold the market "edge," as they are eligible to competition, which weighty steers lack.

Western cattle-gathering, so far as volume is concerned, is several weeks distant. It will depend in large measure on prices. While liquidation is less imperative than at any time since 1920, attractive prices will dislodge a considerable number of cattle that could otherwise be carried. That feeders, who were greedy for fleshy western steers last summer, will buy them in similar numbers, and at anything like the same prices, is doubtful, even if the supply of that kind of cattle is sharply reduced; but there will be a demand right along for yearlings, regardless of condition, and probability exists that killers will compete on the fleshy kind. For several years past the late summer and fall market has been well supplied with western cows and heifers, which should be conspicuous by their absence this year.

Despite lugubrious reports from dressed-beef channels, an enormous quantity of that product is going directly into consumption weekly, and there is no logical reason for assuming that demand will be substantially curtailed. Other meats are costly, and, but for continuous heavy beef production, dressed trade would have elicited a different story. The market has absorbed a large number of \$9.25 to \$10.25 steers, and the product of such cattle comes high by the time it reaches the retailer's block. No beef is being consigned to the rendering-tank, and Bubbly Creek, at Chicago Packingtown, into the murky depths of which old-time beef men insisted it was frequently necessary to dump a stale cooler accumulation to effect a clearance, has been filled in to make Pershing Boulevard. Occasionally the boners may get a jag of cheap beef when eastern branch houses run a bargain sale, but most of the current production goes into consumption at prices that represent a profit to producers, jobbers, and retailers.

Hogs have reacted from the crest of the phenomenal summer rise, which discredited every forecaster engaged in that risky indoor sport. Production is at the inception of the expansion cycle, and, while volume may increase less rapidly than when similar conditions existed formerly, the midsummer government guesstimate on the spring pig crop suggests 3,500,000 to 4,000,000 more pigs in the states of surplus production than last year, although how the crops of Washington forecasters work their promulgations out to decimal points, puzzles the uninitiated. However, the public accepts such emissions as authoritative because emanating from Washington, and they at least furnish trade writers with something to "spiel" on. There is assurance of increased pork production in the number of sows fed for fall litters, in response to the incentive of present high prices.

FEEDER-LAMB PROSPECT

J. E. P.

OPENING on a \$14 to \$14.75 basis at Chicago, and \$10 to \$11 on the range, the \$9.50 feeding-lamb prospect has gone glimmering. Even that price suggestion was somewhat heatedly protested by Colorado operators last April, when they were smarting under winter losses. One factor in establishing the present scale of prices, which may or may not be ephemeral, was the spring boom in fat lambs, which stiffened the previously weak spine of the western breeder. Several factors that exert a potent influence on feeding-lamb prices must be reckoned with, not the least important of which is fall grazing in the Corn Belt and the outcome of the growing corn crop, which early in July was somewhat doubtful. But it is evident that the market will be made by farmer feeders east of the Missouri

River, whose name is legion; also that there will be no cheap lambs. Even New York is in the bidding, and, with anything like favorable physical conditions, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Illinois will absorb thin western lambs by the trainload. Iowa will make the market at Omaha, and there will be another heavy movement direct from the range to eastern feed-lots. Colorado and western Nebraska have not developed a buying mood, but if a scramble develops they will not get left. Much depends on the course of the summer and fall fat-lamb market, as human memory is short, and last season's losses are speedily forgotten.

Farmer feeders are somewhat clamorous for another crop of lambs, because they made money on last season's purchase, having marketed before the development of the February crash, in which western feeders were disastrously involved. Another incentive is the advancing cost of stock cattle. Prices are made by physical conditions and competition, present indications being that many new buyers will be in the market this season, inspired by the money pocketed by their neighbors last winter. Colorado may delay contracting, but, under conditions developed recently, there will be a disposition to break away from mass action. Western feeders will undoubtedly avoid laying in heavy lambs next fall, if the other kind is available. Their logical policy would be to let farmer feeders take the overweight delegation, as they market early. Eastern competition for a share of short western lamb crops suggests the propriety of trans-Missouri operators curtailing their output. Whatever else may be said on the subject, the strong strategic position of the western breeder is not open to debate.

Eastern bankers are not in a mood to finance farm-flock investment at lofty prices. At that, there will be no cheap ewes, especially yearlings, as the visible supply is in strong hands, although many western breeders will cash at least part of their holdings if eastern buyers are willing to meet their ideas of values. Orders for yearling ewes at \$11 to \$12 per head are numerous on file, preference being shown for white-faces. A Long Island order was filled in Wyoming about the middle of June at \$12.50 per head, sales being made at Chicago at \$14.65 to \$14.90 on New York account. Demand for aged ewes is negligible; but, as the West has reduced its holdings of this class of stock, and demand from pulp-feeders is certain, this will cause owners little concern.

CO-OPERATIVE BUYING AND FINANCING OF FEEDERS*

BY C. B. DENMAN

President, National Live Stock Producers' Association

WHILE I APPRECIATE that this is a double-barreled subject, in many instances the two problems of buying and financing of feeders go hand in hand. During the past few years we have seen very rapid progress made in the co-operative selling of live stock on the terminal markets. This movement, brought about by the producers handling their own marketing facilities, has been very worth while, and results are manifest in lessened cost of marketing and improved service. I believe, however, that the greatest benefit a co-operative agency can render is the elimination of speculation.

The National Live Stock Producers' Association, through its terminal agencies, has started a definite program of handling feeder animals direct from the producer to the feed-lot. Here again, under the old plan of handling feeders, we saw the detrimental effect of speculation, hurting both producer and feeder. Whenever feeder animals are subjected to

*Address delivered before the American Institute of Co-operation at St. Paul on June 25, 1926.

speculation, either on or off the public market, a true condition is not reflected. We have thought that, by pooling orders for feeders, we could through volume reduce the cost of movement, furnish a fresher feeder, and give more nearly all of the price which the feeder can pay to the producer.

When first we proposed such a plan, we were told that we could not serve both the producer and the feeder satisfactorily. A case in point will prove that the speculative element did not serve them satisfactorily either. I was in the Southwest last fall, when feeder calves were selling at 8 cents and under. Later these calves were sold at auction in the Corn Belt by the speculator buyer, some of them selling by the head at a price above \$12 per cwt. When the feeder realized how much these calves had cost him in his feed-lot, he was naturally discouraged with the prospect of loss in sight, and was inclined to blame the calves. But if that feeder had, through a co-operative pool, given the Southwest producer 8 cents or under for the calves, and paid 94 cents' freight on a direct shipment, plus a small commission for the buying service, the producer would have had just as much money, and, in addition, something he needs even more—a satisfied, permanent customer. The feeder would have had a chance to make a profit, and another year—probably many more years—would want his feeders from the same source.

The greatest problem of the producer of large numbers of feeders is to find a continuing market for his product at a reasonable marketing expense. The greatest problem of the feeder is to fill his lots with his kind of feeders without so much travel expense, auction expense (which the feeder always bears), loss from poison fills on markets, or slow gains caused by cattle becoming stale in their marketing movement. In case of feeder hogs, a great hazard is the disease to which they are subjected on the markets. All classes of feeders are subjected to one or more additional freight charges in their movement. Co-operative pooling and handling of orders means that expense can be reduced to a minimum, and the above objectionable features eliminated. Our experience has been that the greater volume one has to ship, the better service one can get. Thus we see the power of co-operative buying increased comparably to that of co-operative selling.

A very attractive feature of this plan is that it will make it profitable for the producer to standardize and guarantee his product. Under the old plan, a speculator could handle a few feeders from a given section, run in with these a greater number probably not nearly so good, and sell them all under the advertising gained by the good quality produced in the one section. The result was that the feeder would sometimes be disgusted and blame the wrong section. Under our plan of co-operative effort, the producer's product will not lose its identity, and he will have the full benefit of his better product.

Our feeders give to their nearest Producer terminal agency their order, in which they describe age, weight, and quality, and make their own price limit, if they desire. In addition to the price of the animals, they pay a small commission charge, which goes to the terminal obtaining the order. A small insurance premium is added to the cost, which guarantees the count and condition at the time of arrival at the feed-lots. A deposit on each order is required to guarantee good faith. This deposit on lambs is \$1 per head; on feeder cattle and hogs it is \$100 per load. We have never suffered a loss. This gives the feeder's dollar to the producer at cost of service.

In 1925 we handled 70,000 feeder lambs and 3,000 calves and yearlings, while this year we have handled several thousand feeder hogs. The orders we are now booking indicate a very great increase in the number of lambs and calves that we will handle during the current year. It is very gratifying, indeed, to note that among the orders we are receiving this

year are many from the same feeders who used the service in 1925.

Further to assist the feeder, we have organized and are operating a credit corporation, rediscounting feeder paper at the federal intermediate credit bank located in St. Louis. This credit corporation is owned by the Chicago and St. Louis Producer Commission Associations. When a feeder applies for a loan, he agrees to market his live stock, when ready, through an agency affiliated with the National Live Stock Producers' Association, if there is one located on the market to which he ships. The borrower pays 6 per cent for the use of this money, and the credit corporation takes a 1 per cent spread for the expense of operation. Our stocker- and feeder-buyers at the different markets where we operate are inspectors, and place the value on the animals on which the money is lent. Thus we have been able, by the use of our own inspectors, to hold the cost of the operation of the credit corporation down to a minimum.

STANDARD GRADES FOR CARCASS BEEF

AFTER MANY YEARS' STUDY of the subject of grading carcass beef, with a view to establishing definite and uniform standards to be applied at all markets where the government maintains a meat-market news service, rules for such grading have been prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and have now been approved and formally issued by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine, under date of June 3, 1926. Authority for promulgating these grades was found in the agricultural appropriations act of 1925, providing for the establishment of an inspection service for perishable farm products. They will be known as "Official United States Standards for Grades of Carcass Beef."

The need for such standards has long been apparent to those who have had to do with the meat industry. Tentative grades were first formulated by the government in June, 1923. After slight changes, this draft was published in April, 1924. Toward the close of 1925 public hearings were held at Portland (Oregon), Chicago, and New York City, at which live-stock producers, packers, wholesale and retail meat-dealers, agricultural-college workers, and other interested persons were given an opportunity to submit suggestions. The sentiment developed at these hearings was overwhelmingly in favor of the proposed plan. Some of the recommendations offered have been incorporated in this final revision, which is sent out "in response to many urgent demands, not only on the part of wholesale and retail meat-dealers, but of live-stock producers as well."

The system as here presented, it is stated, has been used continuously by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in its wholesale meat-marketing reporting service since February, 1917. It has also been successfully applied in the grading of meat for the United States steamship lines, many commercial concerns, and public institutions.

Carcass beef is divided into five general classes, according to the sexual characteristics of the animal from which it was derived—Steer, Heifer, Cow, Bull, and Stag. Grades are determined on the basis of conformation, finish, and quality. These factors naturally present certain variations within each of the grades, which thus includes carcasses both above and below the type selected for fixing the standard. In the following brief description, quality of flesh and amount of interior fat alone are considered:

STEERS—

Prime, or No. A1: Flesh firm, velvety, very fine-grained, of a light or cherry-red color, and, in the thicker cuts, abun-

dantly marbled; interior fats abundant but not excessive, firm, crumbly, and of a creamy-white color.

Choice, or No. 1: Flesh firm, velvety, of a light or cherry-red color, and marbled in loins, ribs, rounds, and chucks; interior fats plentiful and of excellent quality.

Good, or No. 2: Flesh generally moderately firm, varying from light cherry-red to slightly darker in color, with some marbling present in the thicker cuts; interior fats in moderate supply, firm, brittle, and reasonably white.

Medium, or No. 3: Flesh somewhat soft, slightly dark red in color, with little or no marbling; interior fats scant, soft, and yellowish.

Common, or No. 4: Flesh soft, watery, and dark red in color; very little interior fat.

Cutter, or No. 5: Flesh very soft, watery, and dark; interior fats limited to traces.

Low Cutter, or No. 6: Flesh extremely soft, watery, and very dark; no visible fats.

HEIFERS—

Same grades and descriptions as steer carcasses.

COWS—

Choice, or No. 1: Flesh firm, fine-grained, generally well marbled, and of a light cherry-red color; interior fats plentiful, firm, and creamy to pale yellow in color.

Good, or No. 2: Flesh firm, moderately fine-grained, usually somewhat marbled, and of a light to slightly dark-red color; interior fats abundant, of a pronounced yellowish tint.

Medium, or No. 3: Flesh usually moderately firm, slightly coarse, and varying in color from light to dark red; interior fats present in moderate quantities.

Common, or No. 4: Flesh coarse-grained, somewhat moist or watery, and usually dark red in color; little interior fat, which is soft and yellowish.

Cutter, or No. 5: Flesh very soft and watery, and very dark red in color; only traces of interior fats.

Low Cutter, or No. 6: Flesh very soft and watery, and of a brownish-red color; only traces of interior fats.

BULLS—

Choice, or No. 1: Flesh generally of a medium dark-red color, firm, but comparatively dry; interior fats plentiful, but somewhat lacking in brittleness.

Good, or No. 2: Flesh generally medium dark red in color, moderately firm and dry; interior fats in moderate supply, and somewhat soft.

Medium, or No. 3: Flesh moderately firm, usually very dry, and varying in color from dark red to light brown; interior fats scant.

Common, or No. 4: Flesh dry and very dark; interior fats generally absent.

Cutter, or No. 5: Flesh, while moderately dry, is inclined to be soft, and is dark red to light brown in color; no interior fats.

Low Cutter, or No. 6: Flesh soft and dark; no fats, interior or exterior.

STAGS—

Choice, or No. 1: Flesh firm and fine-grained, showing some intermixture of fats along muscle seams, and medium to dark red in color; interior fats plentiful.

Good, or No. 2: Flesh firm, moderately fine-grained, and varying from medium to dark red in color; interior fats in moderate supply.

Medium, or No. 3: Flesh usually slightly soft and moist, varying in color from medium to dark red; interior fats somewhat scant.

Common, or No. 4: Flesh soft, moist, and dark-colored; interior fats scant.

Cutter, or No. 5: Flesh soft, watery, and dark-colored; only traces of visible fats.

Low Cutter, or No. 6: Flesh dark, soft, and watery; no visible fats.

According to the announcement, the beef-grading service has been put into effect at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, Norfolk, Chicago, and San Francisco. Extensions will be made as demand arises, provided funds are available. The service is not obligatory on anybody, but is offered only to those making voluntary application therefor.

A similar system for other classes of meats has been worked out, but has not yet been officially established.

NATIONAL LIVE STOCK AND MEAT BOARD

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the National Live Stock and Meat Board was held at Chicago June 28 and 29. The report of General Manager R. C. Pollock on the activities of the past year was received. The receipts through exchanges—the proceeds of the levy on car lots of stock—were \$68,417.36, of which \$30,545.25 was derived from packers and the remainder from producers. This total was about \$4,000 below the receipts of the previous year—a necessary result of the decline in live-stock receipts at the central markets. Some smaller markets, however, have been added to the list of contributing centers during the period.

The manager reported that the meat-story contest had been participated in by 10,000 students, representing more than 500 high schools in every state of the Union and some of the island possessions. A new field of endeavor was opened up with the organization of meat schools for housewives and demonstration lectures in the eastern centers of population. A. T. Edinger, of the Department of Agriculture, described the establishment of these schools in an interesting manner. More than 418,000 recipe books were distributed. E. W. Sheets, also from the Department of Agriculture, reported on the study of quality and palatability of meat, and Dr. A. T. Moulton described the progress made in the research that was being carried on, in connection with laboratory work, to determine the food values of meat.

On the subject of grading and marking carcass meat the board adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, By the National Live Stock and Meat Board, that it is the sense of this board that, in the interest alike of the consumer and of all branches of the live-stock and meat industry, it is desirable that a system of grading and stamping of all federally inspected meats in the carcass under government supervision be established with the least possible delay."

The board passed a budget for the coming year, which contemplates an expenditure of \$72,180. The reserve fund of \$25,000, in the form of Liberty Bonds, remains intact.

The incumbents of all offices were re-elected, as follows: chairman, D. A. Millett, Denver; vice-chairman, Thomas W. Wilson, Chicago; treasurer, Everett C. Brown, Chicago; secretary and general manager, R. C. Pollock, Chicago.

BETTER-BEEF CONFERENCE

AS A SEQUENCE to the order of the Secretary of Agriculture offering a government service for the grading and stamping of beef carcasses at eight of the principal markets of the country, beginning July 1, a joint conference of all the allied interests in the beef trade has been called by the Better Beef Committee, to meet at the Baltimore Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 22 and 23.

The Better Beef Committee was formed in Chicago on March 25 of this year, at the initiative of Alvin H. Sanders, editor of the *Breeder's Gazette*, to take the necessary steps toward the establishment of federally guaranteed grades of prime and choice beef. It is composed of Judge W. W. Wright, Toulon, Illinois; B. H. Heide, general manager of the International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago; F. W. Harding, general executive of the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, Chicago; R. J. Kinzer, secretary of the American Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association, Kansas City; and W. H. Tomhave, secretary of the American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association, Chicago.

At the Kansas City conference Secretary Jardine, Dr. J. R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and a representative gathering of men having to do with the handling of beef from producer to consumer are expected to attend.

CONVENTION OF NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION

THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Nebraska Stock Growers' Association was called to order in the city of Alliance on the morning of June 4, continuing in session until the evening of the next day. June 3, scheduled as the first day of the meeting, was given over to a successful horse sale. A large assembly of stockmen from all parts of the state, as well as of representatives from the various live-stock exchanges and stock-yard companies, was in attendance. A better feeling than has been manifest for several years was in evidence throughout the gathering.

President Robert Graham, in his annual address, recounted what had been done during the past year in connection with the subject of brand inspection and handling of cattle at stock-yards. The system, he said, had been greatly improved, and was now working satisfactorily. He mentioned the hearing held at Omaha on the application of the local live-stock exchange for higher commission rates, against which the association had entered a protest. F. M. Broome, secretary, submitted a report of the business transacted since the last convention. Other speakers were: James Christensen, supervisor of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration at Denver, taking the place of John T. Caine, III, who had been detained at Washington; Frank E. Scott, of Sioux City, president of the National Live Stock Exchange; Dr. C. H. Hays, representing the Bureau of Animal Industry at Lincoln; Professor H. J. Gramlich, of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Nebraska State University; F. Montmorency, general freight agent of the Burlington Railroad; C. F. Walker, district supervisor of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration at Omaha; A. F. Stryker, secretary and traffic manager of the Omaha Live Stock Exchange; B. C. Biggerstaff, secretary of the Kansas City Live Stock Exchange; Leslie E. Green, secretary of the Denver Live Stock Exchange; W. H. Benn, traffic manager for the Sioux City Stock-Yards Company; and Edward N. Wentworth, director of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago.

In the election of officers, Robert Graham was unanimously given another term as president, A. R. Modisett as vice-president, and F. M. Broome as secretary-treasurer.

Following is a summary of the resolutions adopted:

- Asking Congress to place an import duty on hides;
- Requesting Nebraska legislature to pass laws making brand registration compulsory and requiring that all sales of branded stock be legalized by a witnessed bill-of-sale;
- Urging all stockmen to co-operate with state and federal authorities in eradication of scabies;
- Indorsing efforts made to promote orderly marketing;
- Approving campaign for better beef, and commending activities of National Live Stock and Meat Board in educating consumers in use of meats;
- Favoring movement to develop deep waterways;
- Expressing appreciation of work of American National Live Stock Association;
- Recommending appointment of member of Nebraska Stock Growers' Association on Federal Farm Loan Board;
- Thanking different live-stock exchanges for help given in putting new brand-inspection rules into force;
- Requesting officers of association to investigate feasibility of an association brand-book;
- Appreciating steps taken to extend credit to live-stock industry through Federal Intermediate Credit System, but believing that system could function more satisfactorily if loans were made directly to individuals;
- Suggesting that proceeds from sale of estrays whose ownership cannot be proved be turned into protection fund of association;
- Praising efforts made by those in charge of Packers and Stock-Yards Administration to make act beneficial to producers;
- Thanking President Graham for his untiring work in behalf of membership of association.

WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA STOCK GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

STOCKMEN OF WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA met in annual convention—likewise the thirty-fifth—at Rapid City on June 5 and 6. The attendance, though not very large, was thoroughly representative, and much important business was transacted. F. M. Stewart, secretary-treasurer, submitted an interesting report on the past year's activities, quoting Secretary Jardine to the effect that better days were ahead for the cattleman. He stressed particularly the market inspection system maintained jointly by the Wyoming, Nebraska, and South Dakota associations, which, he said, was working successfully at all points. Other addresses were delivered by Edward N. Wentworth, director of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago; James Christensen, of Denver, supervisor of the Western Division of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration; J. M. Brander, representing the same administration at Sioux City; and Dr. M. W. Ray, director of the South Dakota Division of Animal Husbandry.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

- Appealing to Congress for an import duty on hides;
 - Urging stockmen to co-operate with state and federal authorities in eradication of scabies;
 - Approving efforts to develop waterways of Middle West;
 - Expressing appreciation of assistance rendered by live-stock exchanges in installing brand-inspection system at markets;
 - Extending thanks to representatives of Packers and Stock-Yards Administration for fairness of methods employed in putting inspection system into effect.
- James T. Craig, of Bellefourche, was re-elected president; Thomas Jones, of Midland, vice-president; and F. M. Stewart, of Buffalo Gap, secretary.

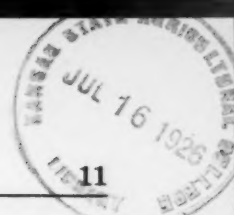
THE WORLD'S LIVE STOCK

WE PRESENT HEREWITH our annual statistics of the world's live-stock population. Most European countries, making a practice of yearly enumerations, have had censuses since our last figures were published; likewise the United States and Canada; and from Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, and a few other places there are fresh official estimates. Unfortunately, the returns from most of South America and Asia are still fragmentary or out of date.

It is to be hoped that the plans for the world live-stock census now in course of preparation by the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, under the direction of Leon M. Estabrook, on leave from the United States Department of Agriculture, will be carried through to a successful conclusion, so that we eventually shall be put in possession of authentic and complete data, giving statisticians of the future the advantage of a uniform starting-point.

As will be observed from the summary appended to the main table, no radical changes have taken place during the year. A slump in cattle numbers in the United States of about 5,000,000 head, according to the count of January 1, 1925, and a somewhat smaller decrease in Europe, leave the world's total cattle population about where it was before the war, and where, with minor adjustments, we shall expect to see it remain for some time to come. Present herds are about equal to the world's beef and butter needs, and current prices nowhere offer much stimulus to increased production.

Sheep flocks, on the other hand, everywhere except in Europe, are expanding, the addition of close on 7,000,000 head to Australia's quota being the most notable feature. This movement reflects the satisfactory conditions obtaining in the



wool and lamb trade, and may be looked for to continue for a while yet. Final totals from the United States census were not to hand as our tabulation was completed, and the figures given are based on estimates by the Department of Agriculture.

A minor falling-off in swine numbers has occurred in the

United States and Europe—about 3,000,000 head in each case. This, of course, is by way of reaction to the declining prices resulting from an oversupplied market during the past few years. A crop of hogs, however, is soon raised, and the next year or two should see the pendulum swing back to some extent as prices again are striking the up-grade.

THE WORLD'S LIVE STOCK

| COUNTRIES | YEAR | CATTLE | SHEEP | SWINE | COUNTRIES | YEAR | CATTLE | SHEEP | SWINE |
|--------------------------------|------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| EUROPE— | | | | | AMERICA— | | | | |
| Austria..... | 1923 | 2,163,000 | 597,000 | 1,473,000 | Argentina..... | 1923 | 37,065,000 | 30,672,000 | 1,437,000 |
| Belgium..... | 1924 | 1,628,000 | 150,000 | 1,139,000 | Bolivia..... | 1916 | 734,000 | 1,499,000 | 114,000 |
| Bulgaria..... | 1924 | 1,292,000 | 7,450,000 | 574,000 | Brazil..... | 1922 | 30,705,000 | 10,655,000 | 18,400,000 |
| Cyprus..... | 1924 | 291,000 | 281,000 | 39,000 | Canada..... | 1925 | 9,307,000 | 2,756,000 | 4,426,000 |
| Czechoslovakia..... | 1924 | 4,607,000 | 1,426,000 | 2,580,000 | Chile..... | 1922 | 2,163,000 | 4,569,000 | 292,000 |
| Denmark..... | 1925 | 2,756,000 | 265,000 | 2,546,000 | Colombia..... | 1916 | 7,000,000 | 246,000 | — |
| Estonia..... | 1925 | 515,000 | 610,000 | 460,000 | Costa Rica..... | 1924 | 404,000 | 1,000 | 75,000 |
| Finland..... | 1924 | 1,864,000 | 1,485,000 | 376,000 | Cuba..... | 1924 | 4,653,000 | — | — |
| France..... | 1924 | 14,025,000 | 10,172,000 | 5,802,000 | Curacao..... | 1923 | 3,000 | 26,000 | 5,000 |
| Germany..... | 1925 | 17,183,000 | 4,742,000 | 16,160,000 | Dominican Republic..... | 1921 | 647,000 | — | 674,000 |
| Great Britain..... | 1925 | 7,361,000 | 23,027,000 | 2,806,000 | Ecuador..... | (?) | 1,250,000 | — | — |
| Greece..... | 1920 | 659,000 | 5,811,000 | 416,000 | Falkland Islands..... | 1923 | 8,000 | 647,000 | — |
| Hungary..... | 1925 | 1,920,000 | 1,891,000 | 2,633,000 | Guatemala..... | 1923 | 246,000 | 133,000 | 33,000 |
| Iceland..... | 1923 | 25,000 | 500,000 | — | Guiana, British..... | 1922 | 74,000 | 21,000 | 12,000 |
| Ireland, North and South..... | 1925 | 4,657,000 | 3,297,000 | 843,000 | Guiana, Dutch..... | 1924 | 16,000 | — | 6,000 |
| Italy..... | 1919 | 6,240,000 | 11,759,000 | 2,339,000 | Honduras..... | 1919 | 103,000 | — | 23,000 |
| Latvia..... | 1925 | 907,000 | 1,182,000 | 497,000 | Jamaica..... | 1922 | 141,000 | 12,000 | 32,000 |
| Lithuania..... | 1924 | 1,252,000 | 1,399,000 | 1,564,000 | Mexico..... | 1924 | 2,188,000 | 1,728,000 | 760,000 |
| Luxemburg..... | 1922 | 83,000 | 4,000 | 89,000 | Newfoundland..... | 1911 | 40,000 | 100,000 | 28,000 |
| Netherlands..... | 1921 | 2,063,000 | 668,000 | 1,519,000 | Nicaragua..... | (?) | 1,200,000 | — | — |
| Norway..... | 1925 | 1,151,000 | 1,529,000 | 253,000 | Panama..... | 1919 | 217,000 | — | 30,000 |
| Poland..... | 1922 | 7,895,000 | 2,178,000 | 5,101,000 | Paraguay..... | 1924 | 4,300,000 | 600,000 | 60,000 |
| Portugal..... | 1921 | 741,000 | 3,851,000 | 921,000 | Peru..... | 1923 | 1,302,000 | 11,056,000 | — |
| Rumania..... | 1925 | 5,548,000 | 12,481,000 | 2,925,000 | Salvador..... | 1917 | 230,000 | 40,000 | 250,000 |
| Russia, European..... | 1921 | 28,805,000 | 34,986,000 | 11,951,000 | United States..... | 1926 | 61,941,000 | 41,198,000 | 53,861,000 |
| Spain..... | 1924 | 3,439,000 | 18,459,000 | 4,158,000 | Uruguay..... | 1924 | 8,432,000 | 14,443,000 | 304,000 |
| Sweden..... | 1920 | 2,736,000 | 1,568,000 | 1,011,000 | Venezuela..... | 1922 | 2,750,000 | 200,000 | 512,000 |
| Switzerland..... | 1921 | 1,425,000 | 244,000 | 639,000 | | | | | |
| Yugoslavia..... | 1924 | 3,764,000 | 7,639,000 | 2,518,000 | | | | | |
| Total Europe..... | | 126,995,000 | 159,651,000 | 73,332,000 | | | 177,119,000 | 120,602,000 | 81,335,000 |
| AFRICA— | | | | | ASIA— | | | | |
| Algeria..... | 1923 | 1,022,000 | 8,991,000 | 111,000 | Ceylon..... | 1921 | 1,368,000 | 68,000 | 59,000 |
| Bechuanaland..... | 1921 | 324,000 | 120,000 | — | China..... | 1916 | 15,973,000 | 22,232,000 | 44,711,000 |
| Egypt..... | 1924 | 689,000 | 1,085,000 | 16,000 | East Indies, Dutch..... | 1921 | 5,060,000 | 955,000 | — |
| Equatorial Africa, French..... | 1922 | 750,000 | 1,126,000 | — | Formosa..... | 1918 | 385,000 | 500,000 | 1,273,000 |
| Eritrea, Italian..... | 1921 | 498,000 | 1,701,000 | — | India, British..... | 1922 | 116,665,000 | 22,085,000 | 22,895,000 |
| Kenya Colony..... | 1922 | 2,814,000 | 2,507,000 | 9,000 | India, Native States..... | 1920 | 15,109,000 | 8,188,000 | — |
| Madagascar..... | 1923 | 7,819,000 | 110,000 | 406,000 | Indo-China, French..... | 1922 | 3,099,000 | 2,000 | 742,000 |
| Morocco..... | 1924 | 1,840,000 | 8,215,000 | 56,000 | Japan..... | 1921 | 1,437,000 | 9,000 | 528,000 |
| Nyassaland..... | 1923 | 118,000 | 67,000 | 30,000 | Korea..... | 1920 | 1,490,000 | 1,000 | 832,000 |
| Rhodesia, Southern..... | 1924 | 2,009,000 | 71,000 | 27,000 | Palestine..... | 1923 | 92,000 | 271,000 | — |
| Senegal..... | 1922 | 427,000 | 215,000 | 5,000 | Persia..... | 1924 | 1,000,000 | 4,000,000 | — |
| Somaliland, Italian..... | 1921 | 1,246,000 | 1,566,000 | — | Philippine Islands..... | 1923 | 874,000 | 300,000 | 7,525,000 |
| South Africa, Union of..... | 1925 | 9,606,000 | 32,003,000 | 915,000 | Russia, Asiatic..... | 1923 | 9,888,000 | 14,208,000 | 2,019,000 |
| Southwest Africa, British..... | 1924 | 577,000 | 1,946,000 | — | Siam..... | 1922 | 2,864,000 | — | 864,000 |
| Sudan, Anglo-Egyptian..... | 1924 | 1,840,000 | 1,629,000 | 56,000 | Syria and Lebanon..... | 1923 | — | 2,061,000 | — |
| Sudan, French..... | 1923 | 1,215,000 | 2,324,000 | — | Turkey, Asiatic and European..... | 1923 | 4,118,000 | 11,914,000 | — |
| Swaziland..... | 1920 | 230,000 | 250,000 | 9,000 | Total Asia..... | | 179,422,000 | 86,794,000 | 81,448,000 |
| Tanganyika Territory..... | 1923 | 3,994,000 | 3,940,000 | — | | | | | |
| Tunisia..... | 1924 | 400,000 | 1,583,000 | 13,000 | OCEANIA— | | | | |
| Uganda..... | 1921 | 681,000 | 222,000 | — | Australia..... | 1925 | 12,958,000 | 86,758,000 | 764,000 |
| West Africa, French..... | 1923 | 4,573,000 | 6,060,000 | — | Fiji Islands..... | 1924 | 57,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 |
| Total Africa..... | | 42,672,000 | 75,831,000 | 1,653,000 | New Zealand..... | 1925 | 3,504,000 | 24,548,000 | 440,000 |
| | | | | | Total Oceania..... | | 16,519,000 | 111,307,000 | 1,206,000 |
| | | | | | GRAND TOTALS..... | | 542,727,000 | 554,185,000 | 238,974,000 |

RECAPITULATION

| GRAND DIVISIONS | CATTLE | | | SHEEP | | | SWINE | | |
|--|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Last Census | Previous Census | Pre-War | Last Census | Previous Census | Pre-War | Last Census | Previous Census | Pre-War |
| United States..... | 61,941,000 | 67,040,000 | 58,471,000 | 41,198,000 | 39,584,000 | 50,110,000 | 53,861,000 | 56,872,000 | 60,221,000 |
| America (including United States)..... | 177,119,000 | 182,092,000 | 160,581,000 | 120,602,000 | 118,919,000 | 155,235,000 | 81,335,000 | 85,005,000 | 89,536,000 |
| Europe..... | 126,995,000 | 128,045,000 | 138,477,000 | 159,651,000 | 160,691,000 | 169,039,000 | 73,332,000 | 76,344,000 | 85,114,000 |
| Asia..... | 179,422,000 | 178,422,000 | 195,087,000 | 86,794,000 | 84,123,000 | 116,163,000 | 81,448,000 | 81,448,000 | 108,049,000 |
| Africa..... | 42,672,000 | 41,785,000 | 34,236,000 | 75,831,000 | 74,964,000 | 74,749,000 | 1,653,000 | 1,648,000 | 1,996,000 |
| Oceania..... | 16,519,000 | 16,667,000 | 13,584,000 | 111,307,000 | 103,736,000 | 109,857,000 | 1,206,000 | 1,180,000 | 1,154,000 |
| GRAND TOTALS..... | 542,727,000 | 547,011,000 | 541,965,000 | 554,185,000 | 542,433,000 | 625,043,000 | 238,974,000 | 245,625,000 | 285,849,000 |

RICHARD DILLON REPLIES TO COLONEL GREELEY

AN ABLE PRESENTATION of the point of view of the stockman, in the controversy over the best disposition of the grazing problem on national forests which has been agitating the western country for so long, appears in the *Saturday Evening Post* of recent date, from the pen of Richard Dillon, of Sedalia, Colorado, under the title "The Policy of Peasantry." Mr. Dillon, we may remind our readers, is a member of the executive committee of the American National Live Stock Association, vice-president of the Colorado Stock Growers' Association, and himself a prominent ranchman. His article is in direct answer to the much-discussed brief for the Forest Service published in the same periodical some time ago under the name of Colonel Greeley, but addresses itself to that wider public, especially of the East, whose erroneous impressions of what the western stock-grower wants have had much to do with muddling this question.

One of these impressions, says Mr. Dillon, is, "first, that the whole controversy has been promoted and fostered by a relatively small group of so-called 'cattle and sheep barons,' with the object in view of obtaining monopolistic control of vast areas of public lands; and, second, that this control would destroy the whole policy of conservation as administered by the Forest Service." To this contention he replies:

"The argument can be simmered down to just two points: (1) the stockman denies the right of the Forest Service to redistribute grazing rights; and (2) he insists that the full commercial value of the forage crop on public lands has long since become incorporated in the values and costs of the ranches dependent on the range, and any attempt at redistribution now can only result in a corresponding depreciation in the value of these ranches. . . .

"Most stockmen recognize that their rights to forage must be subservient to the more important uses for which the forest reserves were created. They are willing to concede this because, even from the standpoint of their own selfish interest, they know that timber growth and watershed protection are never injured until the forage covering has first been seriously impaired by overgrazing, and that overgrazing is thus the surest path to ruin that the stockman can choose. . . .

"A complete understanding of the relationship of grazing rights to the ranch properties which are dependent on them will convince the fair-minded that redistribution is as economically unsound as would be the theory that, because land-holdings in this country which were originally obtained under the homestead laws had in the course of time resulted in holdings of unequal size, and because there are now millions of citizens who had no access to these public lands at the time they passed into private ownership, we should now, in the name of a square deal, redistribute them all over again."

Lands in the West were originally taken up on the basis of "giving to each individual a complete agricultural unit capable of maintaining an American home."

"In the semi-arid sections this unit was of necessity larger than in the more fertile sections, where soil and rainfall were conducive to large yields; and in the mountain country, where the forest reserves lie, the unit was not complete or usable until connected with the range supplement. Therefore the range became an integral and essential part of the unit, and until some more valuable use can be found for it the stockman has the right to expect protection of his range connections. To redistribute them now means to destroy the value and use of the dependent ranch land to which they are connected, and amounts to confiscation of the deeded land which has been paid for on a basis of value, including the value of the summer range.

"The policy of redistribution does not operate to the real benefit of the little man, who is the subject of so much tender solicitude on the part of the Forest Service. It is, indeed, merely one more of the crimes which have been committed in this country in the name of the under dog, who is now being enticed into taking up 640-acre homesteads in a country where

ten times that amount of land could not support enough cattle to provide a decent living for himself and his family. Already by the hundred he has given abundant proof of the truth of the old definition of our homestead laws: 'The government bets you 640 acres against \$300 that in three years' time you will starve to death. . . .

"From the standpoint of general public welfare, the folly seems obvious of reducing the holdings of the man who has only sufficient cattle or sheep to permit of economical management, and whose volume of business is only sufficiently large to provide a decent scale of living for himself and family. It is this type of stockman who is today referred to as the 'cattle or sheep baron'—a title the exquisite irony of which only those can realize who have lived the life of hard work and small recompense which is the lot of the average stockman."

Mr. Dillon ends his article thus:

"I should like to lay before the eastern public a map of all the forest reserves and unappropriated public lands remaining in the West. I should like to have marked off on this map all of the land that could possibly be cultivated—and by that I do not mean to limit it to that which could be profitably cultivated. I would concede all the land on which it is physically possible to operate a plow, ignoring the fact that on the major part of this nothing but erosion would be produced by cultivation; and even then I can picture the amazement of the public at the infinitely small portion of the whole that would be included. As to the balance of this huge domain, not even the most rabid disciple of development could, with the wildest imagination, conceive of its being utilized for anything but grazing.

"The question now at issue between the Forest Service and the stockman is: Who shall be the grazier upon this balance—the stockman already established or the newly come homesteader? Is it better to protect and encourage the man who is using the forage crops of the forest reserves efficiently and economically, and who is supplying the beef and mutton which is later finished in the feed-lots of the Corn Belt, or to go on with the process of redistribution until the final irreducible minimum is reached, and we have fully established a peasantry under circumstances which must result in want and woe?

"It is a serious question, and one that should interest every citizen of the United States. It is a question that involves a great basic industry and a vast empire of territory—an empire that, notwithstanding all the publicity to the contrary, is destined for many decades to come, if not for all time, to be useful in an agricultural sense only to the grazing industry. In its settlement I invoke on behalf of the 'cattle and sheep baron' the same slogan which has so generally been invoked against him—the square deal."

THE AUCTION PLAN

AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION of the American National Live Stock Association held at Phoenix in January, 1926, a resolution was adopted favoring auction sales at live-stock markets and directing the appointment of a committee to arrange for appropriate facilities.

One of the recent sales of live stock at auction was conducted by W. B. Mitchell, of Marfa, Texas, who gives the following account of it:

"My sale of 1,400 dehorned cattle at Kansas City on April 21 was satisfactory in every way. Buyers were there from seven states, and we sold forty-three carloads in two hours. There were enough buyers to have absorbed four times that many. I have no means of telling what the two-year-old cattle and the yearlings brought separately, as they were mixed, but the general average was \$9.30 per 100 pounds, with a top of \$10.15. The cattle averaged 540 pounds in weight.

"On the Monday preceding the Wednesday on which this sale was made, Chicago reported 32,000 cattle and the lowest fat-cattle market of the year. This will give an idea of what we were up against. In spite of this, however, some 400 feeders attended the sale, coming all the way from Pennsylvania down to Oklahoma, to inspect and buy this offering, provided the prices justified their doing so. These buyers were acquainted with offerings I had heretofore sold, and knew that the cattle

would be cut into uniform carload lots of the same breeding and in healthy condition.

"My connection with the Highland Hereford Breeders' Association for the past six years, and my experience during the last year selling for myself, have convinced me that the auction plan is the most satisfactory way for the buyer and the producer to get together.

"Buying cattle at central markets generally means that one is buying assembled cattle from various owners, some of which may have been in the yards for several days. Cattle of this description do not feed out uniformly, nor are they satisfactory. There is a general tendency on the part of feeders everywhere to buy cattle direct, and the producer would also rather sell his cattle in this way. My investigation shows that 85 per cent of the feeders in the Corn Belt feed only one car of cattle. They want cattle of good quality and the same uniform breeding, and are willing to pay a premium for such. I think the auction plan comes as near meeting the requirements of both feeder and producer as anything yet tried out. I believe my sale at Kansas City proved this conclusively."

The success of this sale speaks well for the plan. Efforts are being made to induce the stock-yard companies at all central points to install suitable auction-sale facilities.

GENERAL SURVEY OF CATTLE TRADE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

EMERGING from the somewhat luxurious, if not always comfortable, seclusion of a modern hospital, after a period of immuration lasting practically two months, one is surprised at the immobility of matters in general. Congress is still wrangling over farm relief, the wets and dries are still at it hammer and tongs, depression still hovers over the fat-cattle market, Frank Lowden is as vociferous as ever on the subject of co-operation, Washington correspondents are getting their usual daily grist of information and inspiration from the White House, and Brother Brookhart is still in the political arena. But the sun is shining, and the landscape, sere and brown when the surgeons laid hands on me early in May, is emerald enough to make life worth living. Viewed retrospectively, a hospital experience assumes the character of an interesting adventure.

Discontent is distinctly audible in the beef-making sphere. Several facts are ignored by those indulging in current lamentation, not the least important of which is that the feed-lot has furnished an outlet for a vast quantity of more or less unmerchantable corn that has realized a good price at the stock-yards. As was confidently predicted, the overweight steer has been an even less satisfactory factor than a year ago, when the value of that kind began soaring by leaps and bounds. No similar performance is probable this year, if for no other reason than that the attractive market for weighty cattle during the summer and fall of 1925 set up a mark to shoot at on this occasion. Just why feeders ignore the fact that few heavy cattle are enough to go around under new beef-trade conditions is a deep and profound enigma. Apparently the American beef-maker has the same deep-seated affection for the mature steer that the average Englishman cherishes for the wearer of a title. Certainly the host that swamped the market with fat bullocks weighing anywhere from 1,400 to 1,800 pounds this season is entitled to little sympathy. The only incentive they had was the high market for such cattle last summer, supplemented by an abundance of cheap corn. The heavy spring and early summer run of such cattle has effectively discredited beef-scarcity forecasts. Many of these objectionable cattle, from the viewpoint of beef salesmen, did not go into the feed-lot with excessive weight, but were carried along to nurse the market and reduce corn-crib contents. Just how results figure depends largely on mutual cost and the individuality of the operator. Much of the complaint churn-

ing market atmosphere is somewhat unreasonable, however, especially when bullocks that cost around \$6.75 last fall are eligible to \$10 and \$10.25. An Indiana man of my acquaintance, who dropped into the hospital to congratulate me on my recovery, spent the major part of an hour berating cattle-trade conditions and vowing never to feed another steer. He finally admitted that he had a margin of \$3.75 per cwt. on the operation, and that his hogs had never made so much money before.

However, the heavy steer has served additional admonition on feeders that its position at the market is insecure. This has been made emphatic in the case of the bullock exceeding 1,500 pounds and the plain-type, often styled "old-fashioned," which has been penalized \$1 per cwt. or more, compared with quality cattle carrying the same avoirdupois. Not all of these cattle were open to the criticism of being put in at excessive weight, not a few having been carried for an unwarranted time in the feed-lot. One drove of 1,890-pound bullocks reached Chicago about the middle of June that could not elicit more than a single bid. They went to a Boston concern at \$9.50, were shipped there alive, and were killed whenever an order for such beef justified the operation, the buyer professing to lose money on the purchase. These steers could have been sold in the yearling or two-year-old stage to good advantage, and, if cut loose last fall, would have been worth at least \$15. The incident recalls the action of a Nebraska man who several years ago sent a load of tallow-covered beasts to the Chicago International, and was so incensed by what he considered unjust discrimination by the culling committee that he shipped them home, announcing that he would carry them another year—a policy which his banker vetoed.

Apparently there is but one remedy for this disposition on the part of feeders to ignore beef-trade trends and overload the late winter and early summer market with overweight cattle, and that is by selling on the breeding-ground not later than the yearling stage. Beef trade needs little heavy beef, and demands quality in that limited amount. Carrying rough, or even plain, cattle into the 1,400-pound stage is courting trouble. This season a procession of such bullocks has sold 75 cents to \$1 per cwt. below good steers of the same weight, and even then had to be industriously peddled. Nature and the system of breeding largely practiced all over this North American continent produce an annual crop of nondescript steers that obtrude their deficiencies with age. A large proportion could be vealed to maximum advantage; few should be carried past the yearling stage, at which their delinquency in the matter of conformation is least apparent either on the hoof or on the hooks. At the three-year-old stage, after six months or more on a generous diet of corn, they are as desirable in the beef-house as a skunk at a lawn party.

Probably the solution of the heavy-steer problem will be reached eventually by shutting off the supply at its source—the western breeding-ground. If, as appears probable, the cattle-breeding industry goes on a cow-and-calf or yearling basis, for sound economic reasons, getting access to aged western cattle will be difficult. After digesting the mass of evidence available on the subject, the fact is indisputable that the yearling is the most profitable animal for the feeder, if not for the breeder. The calf is a baby requiring infantile care, and, what is probably of more importance, it is not a consumer of roughage, while the yearling fits into the scheme of Corn Belt agriculture as advantageously as older cattle. But as long as feeders can get big cattle, and have the incentive of a high market the previous season for investing in that kind, they will continue playing an obviously hazardous game.

"I consider THE PRODUCER the best live-stock paper printed."—JOHN B. SHREVE, Hardin, Mont.

PER-CAPITA MEAT CONSUMPTION

INTERESTING MEAT DATA are presented in *Foreign Crops and Markets* for June 21, 1926. Annual per-capita consumption is given for ten of the principal exporting and importing countries, figures for the pre-war period being followed by those for the most recent year for which estimates are available, and the dates being close enough together to furnish a basis for a fair comparison. The statistics have been derived from various official sources, and are probably as nearly accurate as such computations are ever likely to be. Rearranged in order of quantities of meat consumed (in pounds), the table is as below:

| | Beef and Veal | Mutton and Lamb | Pork | Totals |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|------|--------|
| Argentina— | | | | |
| 1912..... | 255.3 | 38.0 | 14.2 | 307.5 |
| 1922..... | 293.3 | 29.1 | 24.1 | 346.5 |
| New Zealand— | | | | |
| 1922..... | 173.3 | 110.0 | 28.3 | 311.6 |
| Australia— | | | | |
| 1923-24..... | 143.7 | 72.0 | 11.5 | 227.2 |
| Canada— | | | | |
| 1910..... | 60.9 | 8.7 | 66.7 | 136.3 |
| 1924..... | 70.0 | 8.4 | 87.7 | 166.1 |
| United States— | | | | |
| 1912..... | 68.1 | 8.1 | 69.1 | 145.3 |
| 1925..... | 71.9 | 5.3 | 77.1 | 154.3 |
| United Kingdom— | | | | |
| 1912..... | 62.7 | 30.4 | 38.0 | 131.1 |
| 1924..... | 63.4 | 22.0 | 41.8 | 127.2 |
| France— | | | | |
| 1911..... | 56.2 | 11.2 | 45.0 | 112.4 |
| 1922-24..... | 59.8 | 9.2 | 46.0 | 115.0 |
| Germany— | | | | |
| 1912..... | 40.6 | 2.1 | 73.1 | 115.8 |
| 1925..... | 39.2 | 2.2 | 62.8 | 104.2 |
| Denmark— | | | | |
| Av. 1910-13..... | 44.5 | 8.2 | 45.4 | 98.1 |
| 1922..... | 57.7 | 5.9 | 37.3 | 100.9 |
| Belgium— | | | | |
| 1912..... | 42.6 | 2.1 | 43.2 | 87.9 |
| 1923..... | 40.7 | 1.2 | 29.2 | 71.1 |

Looking at these figures, one is immediately struck by the enormous amounts of beef and mutton consumed by the people of the Southern Hemisphere. We of the United States are inclined to consider ourselves pretty well to the fore among the world's meat-eaters, but here are Argentina and New Zealand rolling up totals more than twice as large as ours, Argentina leading all with a consumption of nearly a pound a day for every man, woman, and child in the republic. Most of this meat, of course, is beef; but it is worthy of note that much more mutton is eaten south of the Equator than in this country, New Zealand consuming relatively about ten times as much. In Great Britain, too, as everyone knows, mutton is a favorite dish. On the other hand, we of North America excel as pork-eaters; Canada, however, here leading the United States by about ten pounds. Pork likewise stands first on the German's bill-of-fare.

Trends in meat consumption, as far as revealed by this tabulation, seem to be rather upward. With the exception of certain European countries where there has been a slight falling-off, due to easily understandable causes, somewhat greater quantities are now generally eaten than before the war. With the gradual return of normal conditions in Europe, we expect to see pre-war figures attained and exceeded there too, until the point is reached for a majority of the people where consumption approximates desire, after which there will be only minor swings of the pendulum back and forth, and producers will have a steadier gauge for their operations. Expressed in percentages, the above table shows a gain of 10.3 per cent in

beef consumption from the period directly preceding the war, taking the ten countries together; of 2.9 per cent in pork consumption, and of 4.5 per cent in the total of all meats. Only mutton and lamb have gone back by 23.4 per cent.

CATTLE STILL LAGGING BEHIND

BASED ON AVERAGE PRICES for the years 1921 to 1925 paid by packers under government supervision, which are taken as representing 100, the following computations have been made by Dr. Tage U. H. Ellinger, of the Department of Live Stock Economics of the International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, of the ups and downs of cattle, calf, hog, and sheep prices for the first five months of the current year:

| | Cattle | Calves | Hogs | Sheep |
|---------------|--------|--------|------|-------|
| January..... | 108 | 115 | 135 | 111 |
| February..... | 109 | 107 | 137 | 96 |
| March..... | 104 | 117 | 129 | 89 |
| April..... | 101 | 111 | 135 | 97 |
| May..... | 98 | 119 | 151 | 104 |

The theory that cattle prices in May fell below the average for the five-year period 1921-25 will not, we fancy, meet with universal acceptance. On the basis of top prices at Chicago, as quoted by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, we find that the average price paid for cattle in May of each of the five years, with the exception of 1925, was lower than the average for May, 1926. In May, 1921, it was \$7.93 per 100 pounds; in 1922, \$7.99; in 1923, \$8.75; in 1924, \$9.08; in 1925, \$9.71; and in 1926, \$9.41; the average for the five years 1921-25, according to these figures, being \$8.69.

PETITION FOR REPARATION

A PETITION was filed with the Secretary of Agriculture on June 22 in the Omaha commission-charge case (Docket 143), now before the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration, praying that reparation be granted to all shippers of live stock to the Omaha market since March 27, 1926, of the amount of commission charges over and above what may be determined by the secretary to be just and reasonable. The petition is signed by the American National Live Stock Association, the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association, the Nebraska Stock Growers' Association, the Colorado Stock Growers' Association, the Montana Stock Growers' Association, the Utah Cattle and Horse Growers' Association, and the Corn Belt Meat Producers' Association.

THE CALENDAR

- July 12-14, 1926—Third Annual Midsummer Meeting of Colorado Stock Growers' Association, Gunnison, Colo.
- July 15-17, 1926—Annual Convention of Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, Thermopolis, Wyo.
- July 22-23, 1926—Better Beef Conference, Kansas City, Mo.
- July 27-29, 1926—Annual Convention of Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association of Texas, Del Rio, Tex.
- August 30-September 1, 1926—National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- September 12-19, 1926—Live Stock Show at Sesquicentennial International Exposition, Philadelphia, Pa.
- September 27-October 3, 1926—Seventeenth Annual Dairy Cattle Congress, Waterloo, Iowa.
- October 30-November 6, 1926—Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland, Ore.
- November 27-December 4, 1926—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.

July, 1926

THE PRODUCER

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF THE

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GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

THE FIRST HALF of the year closed with wide irregularities in business—increased activity in some lines and comparative dullness in others. There has been a progressive improvement in the steel industry, with some price advancements, larger sales, better demand for structural material, and more liberal orders for railroad equipment. Of the non-ferrous metals, copper and zinc are lower, while lead and tin are higher. Automobile production shows a further slowing-down. Hesitation prevails in the textile field, with continued curtailment of production, some stocks of dry goods having been liquidated at sharp concessions in price. A strike in the New York garment trade, involving 40,000 workers, has been declared. The leather and footwear markets continue dull. Furniture-manufacturing is slack.

Hides declined a full cent during May, while wool is in better demand at firmer prices. Cotton is somewhat lower, and government reports indicate a large production. Crop conditions are slightly improved, although the drought in the spring-wheat territory has seriously cut down prospects. Corn is a little backward, on account of low temperatures. Prices of corn and oats are still below cost of production, and wheat prices declined during May. The much-discussed agricultural relief legislation failed; so farmers will for the present have to work out their own salvation. The co-operative marketing bill passed just before the close of Congress is generally regarded as a sop to the farmer.

Car-loadings continue on a high level. Bank clearings indicate a large aggregate business. Railroad earnings are mostly favorable. Corporate interests are making large disbursements in dividends. At the close of June, money rates were firmer, railroad

stocks strong, industrials lower, and bonds irregular. Foreign exchange was quiet, except in the case of French francs, which descended to a new low level. May foreign-trade returns show a small excess in value of exports over imports for the first time this year.

Wholesale quotations for the last week in June have more declines than increases, the concessions being largely in cotton and woolen goods and hides, reversing the trend of a year ago.

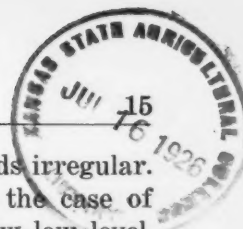
Bradstreet's food index number for the week ending June 24 was \$3.63, compared with \$3.66 for the previous week and \$3.69 for the week ending June 25, 1925.

THE MEAT-GRADING ORDER

THE INTEREST EXPRESSED by organized stockmen in favor of the establishment of a system of grading meat in the carcass, and marking it in such manner as would assist the consumer in selection, has received recognition by Secretary Jardine in the form of an order issued in June and known as Service and Regulatory Announcements No. 98.

The order is permissive. It provides for grading services which may be rendered by the department in cases where such services are requested by a federal or state official, or by an interested party, provided the expert personnel is available. Presumably grading at the request of a customer would be subject to the consent of the wholesaler; and, in fact, it will probably be used in those cases only where it is made the condition of a contract between buyer and seller of meats in wholesale or job lots. No expressed provision for marks to be used is made, but it is provided that "when practicable" the meat shall be "appropriately marked, stamped, or tagged to indicate the class and grade." The fact that it has been examined and graded by a government expert will be evidenced by a certificate. The identity of the meat covered by such certificate and marked by a tag might conceivably be lost in passing through the channels of trade to the consumer. In fact, it is not easy to see how any assurance of quality or grade can reach the consumer under this order.

It is altogether probable that the secretary is without authority to establish a general and compulsory grading service. It is certain that neither the necessary personnel nor the necessary appropriation is presently available. In these circumstances, Order No. 98 represents perhaps the limit of the secretary's authority. It may be welcomed as a sympathetic gesture. It is an exaggeration to hail it as a practical measure putting into effect even the first step in the desired grading and marking system.



FARM RELIEF IN CONGRESS

CONGRESS HAS NOW ADJOURNED. Of its hectic labors to bring forth something that would placate the farmer and stay the rising swell of discontent in the Corn Belt states, nothing tangible came. On June 24 the McNary-Haugen equalization-fee bill went down to defeat in the Senate, 45 to 39. Following that, one after another of the substitute measures introduced met the same fate—only more emphatically; among them the Fess co-operative farm-loan bill, indorsed by the President, which was rejected by a vote of 54 to 26. All that was saved from the wreck, after months of wrangling in Washington and an agitation that has stirred the country from coast to coast, is a ridiculous little bill appropriating \$225,000 for the creation of a division within the Department of Agriculture to promote co-operative marketing, which was passed without a roll-call.

On the political results of this conspicuous example of congressional inability to deal with a big national problem it is not for THE PRODUCER to speculate. That in a number of middle-western states the reaction will find expression at the polls in November may be taken for granted. But the Congress elected in the fall of 1926 will not go into office until December of 1927. Between now and then much may happen. Meanwhile proponents of the export-corporation plan have made known their intention to renew their efforts at the short session.

It is regrettable that, owing to the time wasted in debate on this legislation, action on many other important measures should have been postponed. Among them is the Stanfield grazing bill.

SHOULD THE CATTLE TARIFF BE LOWERED?

AS AN INDUCEMENT for the United States to lower its import duty on cattle, Canada, through her minister of agriculture, has signified her readiness to adopt a *quid pro quo*, or "brick for brick," policy and reduce her own tariff on American cattle a corresponding amount.

Such an arrangement might not be quite so mutually advantageous as Mr. Motherwell would have us believe. As far as cattle are concerned, the United States for some time has been on an import basis; that is, in spite of the tariff, each year we ship in between two and three times as many as we ship out. Our imports from Canada alone during the twelve months ending March 31, 1926, were 171,633 head, while we exported to that country only 840 head. Most of the cattle which we imported were not needed, in the sense that they could not have been supplied by our own producers; they came in simply be-

cause the customs wall was not high enough to shut them out.

In advocacy of the removal of the tariff barrier it has been asserted, on both sides of the border, that the United States could absorb all of Canada's cattle surplus with scarcely a ripple in domestic prices. This we doubt. Canadian exports to the United States and Great Britain combined, during the period mentioned above, were 289,452 head. That our markets could take care of an additional three-tenths of a million cattle, approximating the average monthly movement of stockers and feeders from yards to feed-lots, without seriously depressing prices, does not seem probable.

Furthermore, this three hundred thousand is not a fixed quantity, incapable of great and rapid augmentation. Whatever young cattle are now brought into this country from the Dominion come as the result of a calculation on the part of breeders in its western provinces that it is more profitable to pay the American duty of one and a half cents a pound than the freight rate to the coast and thence across the Atlantic. We assume that those Canadians who ship to our markets at least "break even," or they would soon quit the business. If the duty of, say, ten dollars a head were removed, this, then, would represent clear profit. With such an incentive to increased breeding operations, how long would it be before our markets were swamped by hordes of imported cattle against which our own range breeders would find it impossible to compete? The possibilities for expanding the Canadian cattle industry are limitless.

If it is remarked that from 1913 to 1921, under the Underwood tariff act, cattle were let in duty-free, with no disastrous consequences to our markets, the obvious answer is that the World War, with its tremendous meat demand, temporarily put normal economic law out of function. During the period of the slough in which the live-stock industry afterward got mired, the restored tariff helped to prevent prices from falling still lower than they did. Besides, free trade in cattle and meat was never advocated on the ground that it was an aid to home producers.

The United States can, and for a long time to come should continue to, raise its own beef. Our ranges are still wide enough to breed all the stockers and feeders that the Corn Belt may need. Let us look after our own interests first, just as Canada and everybody else are doing. Canada in 1911 could have secured full reciprocity with us, but rejected it. This latest bait is a very slim worm indeed that does not tempt us overmuch. If the time should ever arrive when this country becomes so populous or industrialized that it no longer can feed its own mouths, we undoubtedly shall be more than glad to give our excellent neighbor to the north a chance to help us out.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE IN CATTLE

IF A FARMER living on the border between Texas and Oklahoma lets his cattle drift across the line into the neighboring state, is he engaged in interstate commerce? He is, says Chief Justice Taft, of the United States Supreme Court.

Echols County, Georgia, on the Florida border, was found to be infested with cattle ticks. Under the act of 1884, creating the Bureau of Animal Industry, and authorizing it to co-operate with individual states in preventing the spread of diseases from one state to another, Georgia passed a law providing for enforced dipping, and called upon the federal government to assist. Spraying-pens and dipping-vats were erected at the cost of the United States, and the bureau sent agents to the spot. Owners of cattle resented this action. Imbued with the states-rights doctrine in virulent form, they dynamited the pens and vats, attacked the agents, and killed one of them. The offenders were indicted in the United States District Court, and convicted. The judgment was appealed to the Circuit Court of Appeals, and confirmed. An appeal was thereupon taken to the United States Supreme Court, where the constitutionality of the act was challenged.

In rendering his opinion, Mr. Taft said:

It is urged against this conviction that the statute of 1884 is unconstitutional in that . . . such legislation by Congress cannot be sustained as a regulation of interstate commerce, because the cattle treated were not in interstate commerce. It is very evident from the act, and the subsequent legislation and regulations issued under it, that everything authorized to be done was expressly intended to prevent the spread of disease from one state to another by contagion, which of course means by the passage of diseased cattle from one state to another. This is interstate commerce. The quarantine provided for was to stop and regulate such interstate commerce until it could be safely carried on. . . . But it is said that these cattle do not appear to have been intended to be transported by rail or boat from one state to another, and this only is interstate commerce in cattle under the Constitution. They were on the line between the two states. To drive them across the line would be interstate commerce, and the act of 1905 expressly prohibits driving them on foot when carrying contagion. It is argued, however, that when the cattle only range across the line between the states, and are not transported or driven, their passage is not interstate commerce. We do not think that such passage by ranging can be differentiated from interstate commerce. It is intercourse between states, made possible by the failure of owners to restrict their ranging, and is due, therefore, to the will of their owners.

This decision seems to us sound. If a distinction could be made between transporting or driving cattle across a state line with a definite purpose in view, and simply permitting them to stray, the main object of the act would be frustrated. That object, as Justice Taft well says, is to protect one state against the introduction of animal diseases from another.

CROP REPORT FOR JUNE

CONDITION OF WINTER WHEAT early in June indicated a harvest of around 543,300,000 bushels, according to the estimators of the Department of Agriculture. This was a decline of 5,000,000 bushels from the forecast of the previous month, but still left the figure about 145,000,000 bushels over last year's final returns of 398,486,000 bushels. Drought had cut down the prospects in Kansas and Nebraska by over 13,000,000 bushels, and in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon by 2,000,000 bushels, partly offset by gains in Texas, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. Harvesting is now fast progressing northward, threshing returns from Kansas being rather more favorable than expected.

Spring wheat showed a condition of only 78.5 per cent—the lowest ever reported. For the past ten years the June average has been 89.9 per cent. The crop is below normal throughout the whole territory where this grain is grown. Private guesses place the probable yield at around 220,400,000 bushels. In 1925, 270,879,000 bushels were harvested.

Rye on June 1 was estimated to yield a crop of 41,131,000 bushels, against a production in 1925 of 48,696,000 bushels.

Oats had had a bad start in all the important northern states except Wisconsin and Michigan. Condition for the country as a whole was slightly lower than on the same date last year. Missouri and South Dakota were reported to be more than 20 points below their ten-year average, while Texas was over 20 points above.

Hay prospects in the West and Southwest were generally very good, but in the country as a whole the outlook, owing to persistent drought, was poorer than in any previous June for fifteen years.

Corn, as far as private reports were available at the end of last month, was doing well, having benefited by the better moisture conditions obtaining lately. The crop, however, was late and needed warmer weather.

Cotton was generally in good condition, although more moisture was needed in parts of the South.

NUMBERS GRAZED ON FOREST CONTINUE TO DECREASE

DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1925 there were a total of 1,696,846 cattle and horses and 6,178,104 sheep and goats grazed on the national forests of the United States, the Forest Service announces. This compares with 1,782,272 cattle and horses and 6,330,376 sheep and goats in 1924. The decrease from the previous year was thus 85,426 cattle and horses and 152,272 sheep and goats. The downward movement has been gradual since 1918, when 2,240,010 cattle and horses and 8,512,206 sheep and goats were grazed on the forests. The falling-off in the number of cattle was about evenly distributed among the seven districts comprising the United States proper, while there were slight increases in sheep in two districts. In California, the Stanislaus National Forest was closed to all grazing during the entire season, owing to the presence of foot-and-mouth disease.

A loss of about 6 per cent from the year before in individual users of forest ranges was shown, all accounted for by the smaller number of cattle permits issued—23,806 in 1925, as against 26,298 in 1924, or a reduction of 2,492. Sheep permittees, on the other hand, gained 134, rising from 5,695 to 5,829.

It is believed that the year 1925 marks the lowest point in the downward trend, and that the present season will show a substantial increase in number both of permittees and of live stock.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

CONDITIONS IN TEXAS WERE NEVER BETTER

MARFA, TEX., June 18, 1926.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have just returned from a 1,500-mile automobile trip, in which I covered the range section of the Panhandle. I was anxious to get first-hand information regarding the general condition of the cattle business; also to find out the prospective calf crop, and what disposition ranchmen expected to make of the calves this fall. On this trip I inspected several thousand head of cattle and interviewed the principal ranchmen throughout the entire country. I doubt if conditions, as a whole, have ever been quite so good as they now are over the whole state.

Cattle are from sixty to ninety days ahead of what they usually are at this time of the year, with the supply of grown cows about 60 per cent of normal, and a very few one- and two-year-old heifers, as most of these were marketed when they were calves. There is a rather large supply of two-year-old steers, while three- and four-year-olds are about 40 per

cent of normal. The calf crop will amount to about 75 per cent, with the calves somewhat later than normal and rather uneven.

I found an abundance of surplus grass wherever I went, and considerable activity among the local cattlemen, particularly in the buying of calves and steer yearlings. There will be a demand among these men to absorb all the young cattle that will be offered for sale at satisfactory prices. Thus, in spite of the fact that we have a very unsatisfactory price for prime cattle, it looks as if the feeders who buy these range calves would necessarily have to compete with the local man; and the price, in my judgment, will be about as it was last year, ranging from 7½ to 8 cents per pound for steer calves, with \$1 per hundred pounds less for heifer calves. I am inclined to think that the feeder is going to be a little slow about taking hold of these cattle at these prices, as the price he is receiving for fat cattle does not justify it.

Conditions in the Highland country remain good. There is about an 85 per cent calf crop, which will be rather uneven.

W. B. MITCHELL.



BIG CREEK RANCH

This famous property, 20 miles southeast of Encampment, in southern Wyoming, is *priced to sell*. Operated for years by Hunter, Casteel & Hunter as a western cattle plant of outstanding success. Nine thousand acres—one-third in rich meadow. Lavish irrigation under oldest priorities. Three thousand cattle carried today. Commands great areas of public-domain grazing, and has allotments in Medicine Bow and Hayden National Forests. Improvements

include \$10,000 barn, spacious home and guest quarters, full ranch equipment of bunk houses, storage buildings, corrals, and 40 miles of buck and wire fence.

This is a superb proposition for party seeking finest fishing, along with opportunity to enter paying business in cattle or sheep. A *real ranch* and a *real buy*.

Write us quick. Recent sales in Big Creek region show keen demand for these wonderful stock ranches.

S. OSGOOD PELL & COMPANY

17 West Forty-fourth Street, New York City

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WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

PACKERS AND STOCK-YARDS ADMINISTRATION

Amendment Providing for Registration of State Agencies

THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT to section 304 of the Packers and Stock-Yards Act has passed Congress and been signed by the President, and is now in force:

"SECTION 304. It shall be the duty of every stock-yard owner and market agency to furnish upon reasonable request, without discrimination, reasonable stock-yard services at such stock-yard; *Provided*, That in any state where the weighing of live stock at a stock-yard is conducted by a duly authorized department or agency of the state, the secretary, upon application of such department or agency, may register it as a market agency for the weighing of live stock received in such stock-yard, and upon such registration such department or agency and the members thereof shall be amenable to all the requirements of this act; and upon failure of such department or agency or the members thereof to comply with the orders of the secretary under this act he is authorized to revoke the registration of such department or agency, and to enforce such revocation as provided in section 315 of this act."

As a result of the passage of this amendment, the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of the State of Minnesota, operating at South St. Paul, has registered as a market agency and filed its tariff.

Secretary's Punitive Power Broadened

Extension of the powers of the Secretary of Agriculture to suspend any market agency or dealer who is insolvent, or any market agency or dealer, or any officer, agent, or employee of any market agency or dealer, found guilty of violation of any order or regulation issued by the secretary under the Packers and Stock-Yards Act, from engaging in business at any and all registered stock-yards for a period not to exceed five years, is the object of an amendment introduced by Senator Norris, of Nebraska. Failure to comply with a suspension order is to be punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

This amendment is a substitute for one previously introduced by Senator Capper, of Kansas.

Stock-Yard Charges at Fort Worth

Tariff No. 3 of the Stock-Yards Company of Fort Worth, Texas, filed with the Secretary of Agriculture on April 23, 1923, contains the following rates of yardage charges: cattle, 35 cents per head; calves, 25 cents; hogs, 12 cents; sheep, 8 cents; horses and mules, 35 cents. These rates, it is stated in the tariff, apply on all animals received, including direct consignments to packers and others. If live stock is forwarded unweighed, without change of ownership, the yardage is waived.

On April 24, 1926—effective May 6—the company filed a supplement to this tariff, amending the provisions to read:

"Live stock received and forwarded unweighed and without change of ownership, yardage will be waived. Live stock unloaded at these yards destined for near-by country points, yardage will be waived if delivery is taken promptly by consignee at unloading pens. In all instances where horses or mules are transferred from or to unloading or loading pens by the owner of said animals or his agent to or from barns maintained by him, the Stock-Yards Company will refund to such owner or agent, out of the yardage collected on such animals, \$2 per car for such service."

The Secretary of Agriculture, believing this regulation to be "unjust, unreasonable, and discriminatory," ordered a hearing to be held before an examiner of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration at Fort Worth on June 7, which date was later changed to July 15.

Sioux City Hearing Again Postponed

A further postponement of the hearing in the Sioux City commission-rate case, set for June 28, has been announced by John T. Caine, III, chief of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration. The new date will be fixed later.

NEW FEDERAL WOOL GRADES

ON THE SAME DATE—July 1—on which the regulations for grading beef went into effect, new official standards for grades of wool and wool tops were established by order of the Secretary of Agriculture. The standards replace those established by the secretary on May 18, 1923, as effective July 1, 1923, the changes being a subdivision of several of the grades to increase the number in the series from seven to twelve, and the addition of numerals correlated with the American terminology in designating the grades.

Like those superseded, the official standards are based on diameter of fiber, ranging from 36's to 80's. In the practical forms of the present standards and the superseded standards, the corresponding samples are: 64's—Fine; 58's— $\frac{1}{2}$ Blood; 56's— $\frac{3}{8}$ Blood; 48's— $\frac{1}{4}$ Blood; 46's—Low $\frac{1}{4}$ Blood; 44's—Common; 36's—Braid.

AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATIONS

FOLLOWING ARE THE PRINCIPAL ITEMS in the agricultural appropriation bill for the calendar year beginning July 1, 1926, as passed by Congress and signed by the President: road construction, \$75,000,000; Bureau of Animal Industry, \$8,369,000; Forest Service, \$8,232,000; Bureau of Agricultural Economics, \$4,731,000; Bureau of Plant Industry, \$3,858,000; Bureau of Entomology, \$2,606,000; Weather Bureau, \$2,521,000; agricultural experiment stations, \$1,440,000; farmers' co-operative demonstrations, \$1,308,000; tuberculosis eradication in cattle, \$975,000; cattle-tick eradication, \$699,450; Bureau of Dairy Industry, \$490,790. The total amount voted for the Department of Agriculture is \$126,220,000.

UNITED STATES FREE OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

EFFECTIVE JUNE 10, all domestic quarantine regulations imposed by the Department of Agriculture on account of foot-and-mouth disease in live stock have been revoked. That date marks the lapse of exactly one year since the last outbreak in California. The situation there presented particular difficulties, owing to the rough and inaccessible character of much of the ground involved, and to the fact that wild deer were found to have been infected. As a result of these conditions, limited areas have been kept under supervision until now as a precautionary measure. Texas, the other state where outbreaks have recently occurred, was officially released from quarantine on April 1.

PACKERS DEMAND REFUND

REPARATION in the sum of more than one million dollars is sought in a complaint filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission by Armour, Swift, and the Interior Iowa Packers of Cedar Rapids against all railroads east of the Mississippi River. Losses to that amount are claimed by petitioners to have been caused them during the last two years through unauthorized freight rates on shipments from points east to Denver and the Rocky Mountain region.

BRITAIN FORBIDS IMPORTATION OF FRESH MEAT

OWING TO THE DISCOVERY of foot-and-mouth disease in hog carcasses shipped in from the Netherlands, the British Ministry of Agriculture early in June took the radical step of prohibiting the landing in Great Britain of all carcasses of cattle, sheep, and hogs from the continent of Europe, as well as fresh and refrigerated meat from such animals. Fully cured bacon and ham are exempted.

As a result of this order, prices on British home-grown pork and veal have advanced very sharply. The rise in beef and lamb has not been so great, as most of the supplies of these commodities come from the Southern Hemisphere.

The Dutch government maintains that the infected carcasses were not of Dutch origin, but were only shipped through the Netherlands. Consequently an embargo has been declared on all transshipments of fresh meat through the Netherlands.

British meat-dealers are up in arms against this meat embargo, and are petitioning the government to cancel or modify the order. Live-stock producers, on the other hand, are vigorously supporting the exclusion policy. In the *London Live-Stock Journal* this indignant paragraph occurs:

"For years this country has suffered incalculable loss and incurred enormous expense in vain efforts to clear the country of foot-and-mouth disease. For a considerable length of time that disease has been reaching Britain unchecked from countries which are known to be reeking with the disease. . . . The haphazard manner in which we seem to have been receiving supplies of pig carcasses from Holland is almost beyond belief. Farmers are constantly appearing in the courts of this country and being fined for failing to notify even the symptoms of disease in their stocks; and yet all the while disease-laden carcasses have come here without question—carcasses which oust the home product from its legitimate market, and raise 'embargoes' against the live stock of this country on the part of practically every country of the world."

If the order is allowed to stand, American exports should eventually benefit. In 1925 the Netherlands exported 91,822,000 pounds of fresh pork to Great Britain, the Irish Free State 20,130,000 pounds, and the United States 14,522,000 pounds.

THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN JUNE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., July 1, 1926.

A SEASON OF HEAVY BEEF PRODUCTION was indicated by liberal June receipts of high-dressing cattle of all weights and types. Apparently the country sat up nights awaiting favorable market omens. Its response to radio encouragement to order cars was at all times prompt. Commission men at the central markets were never in doubt as to where they could get cattle, should necessity arise for ordering in a few, and killers had no incentive to send their beef-buyers into the highways and byways of the Corn Belt in quest of heavy kosher bullocks, as they did last summer. The proportion of choice and prime steers at Chicago—these terms implying weight at this season—was large, reflecting effort to cash corn by the feed-lot route. The result was a constantly saturated dressed-beef market, and reluctance on the part of both local killers and shippers to force trading. One conspicuous feature of the June run was the large percentage of fat steers grading good, choice, and prime, and a marked deficiency of medium and common steers. In anticipation of a break in the latter with the advent of southern grass cattle, feeders cut them loose early, especially as they showed a profit right along, while the better grades were carried to nurse the market. The logical result was that, while good, choice, and prime steers were appraised at 75 cents to \$1 per cwt. below prices current at the corresponding period last year, when such cattle were advancing in price, the cheaper grades sold somewhat higher than a year ago. At all times feeders and fat cattle were out of line, to the disadvantage of the latter. The dressed-beef market was amply supplied, especially with the better grades, cheap beef selling to relatively good advantage, owing to a short run of southwestern grassers and deficiency in the supply of female cattle.

Yearling Cattle Are Favorites

Naturally it has been a mercurial market, the pick of the steer crop selling at \$10 to \$10.50, with an occasional load of prime heavy cattle above the latter figure. A large proportion of the business in fed cattle was done at a range of \$9 to \$10.25. Yearlings with decent finish were favorites, especially yearling heifers good enough to sell at \$10 to \$10.35, the bulk of the finished yearlings going at \$10 to \$10.25. Grade for grade, yearlings outsold heavy cattle. It was an outpouring

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from Corn Belt feed-lots, in which Nebraska was strongly represented in the heavy-steer delegation. Southwestern cake-feds sold at \$8 to \$8.75; Montana pulp-feds, at \$9 to \$9.25. All kinds of cows, including canners and cutters, realized relatively better prices than steers, that market holding 75 cents to \$1 per cwt. higher than a year ago. Choice heavy kosher cows sold at \$8 to \$8.25, the general run of butcher cows at \$5.50 to \$7, and a formidable procession of heifers at \$7 to \$9, a few grassy heifers going as low as \$6.50. Cows at \$5 were on the line between cutters and low-grade beef cows, strong-weight canning cows selling at \$4.25 to \$4.50, and thin southwestern offerings at \$3.75 to \$3.85. During the week of the Eucharistic Congress at Chicago over one million pounds of "hot dogs" were consumed, requiring an enormous quantity of cheap meat, which accounts for a broad outlet for low-grade cows and bologna bulls selling at \$6 to \$6.50.

Hog Prices Reflect Corn Abundance

A fifteen-dollar midsummer market for light hogs, with average cost around \$14 much of the time, merely reflects the difference between saturation and a barely adequate supply. Had slaughter been 10 per cent heavier, prices would have ruled \$1 to \$2 per cwt. lower. When any food commodity is scarce, the public will buy it regardless of cost. One reason for a sparse hog supply during June was an abundance of cheap corn, infusing growers with confidence and prompting them to feed out sows that had weaned pigs in March and April. A certain school of writers on live-stock topics has harped incessantly on the spread between corn and hogs—probably the widest in the history of the industry—apparently in an effort to create an impression of permanency. It was a fortunate circumstance for those who had sufficient foresight to stick to their breeding stock during the period of low hog and high corn prices.

Belief That Crest Has Been Reached

How rapidly repletion will proceed is anybody's guess. So far as human energy is concerned, there will be no relaxation; but nature exerts an influence on such rehabilitation, which is indicated by a short pig crop this season in many localities. That the crest of the rise was reached in June, so far as average cost of packers' droves is concerned, is the consensus of opinion. While stocks of lard and meats are not heavy, especially at the midsummer season, both domestic and foreign consumption has been somewhat restricted by high prices; packers are on the alert to force concessions, and determined not to accumulate product at current cost; while it is an open secret that profit in converting pork has prompted growers to hold back sows that would otherwise have appeared at the market earlier in the season. A few light hogs, which are in the specialty class, may make a new top in September, but the rank and file of hogs with weight are scheduled to earn less money. Present conditions will naturally stimulate fall farrowing, so that recuperation will be reasonably rapid. It has been a hard season for the big packers, who depend on volume for profit in hog slaughter, and who have been deprived of what is regarded as their legitimate share of the crop by a coterie of small killers who have shaped the course of the market much of the time.

June Lamb Market Analyzed

June pyrotechnics in the lamb market surprised even the wisest of the sheep-house bunch. Responsibility may be distributed. Bad—or, to be more diplomatic, injudicious—buying was one factor. There was no apparent reason for top lambs flirting with \$20 at the middle of the month, which was demonstrated when the same kind sold down to \$15.75 ten days later. Such philosophy as exists in lamb-buying circles is easily con-

founded, as, when the market was on a \$19 basis, killers' agents bemoaned their inability to take care of their trade. A few days later the burden of their complaint was that they could not vend the product of \$16 lambs. Other factors were a short crop of California "springers," and a light run from Tennessee and Kentucky, where, for some inexplicable reason, production has been curtailed, despite the fact that prices have been remunerative over a period of years, and that lamb-raising fits into the scheme of mid-southern agriculture. A much-advertised heavy increase in native-lamb supply did not materialize. Fortunately both for killers and consumers, the Northwest began loading new-crop lambs early, averting a famine. Idaho and Oregon loaded over one thousand cars of lambs in June, most of which took the short route to market, so that they were spread out and readily absorbed.

Advance Followed by Sharp Decline

When the slump began, it was somewhat precipitous, as much as \$1 per cwt. being taken off lambs within a few days; but, at that, it was a high market, a considerable number of native lambs selling at \$15 to \$15.50. Yearlings were not plentiful, but enough fat sheep showed up to melt spring prices away, until most of the desirable killing ewes sold at \$5.50 to \$6.50, with heavies at \$4 to \$5. The break in sheep was precipitated by liberal marketing of dry ewes from the middle South, where the season was unfavorable to lamb production. Such ewes as went to killers at \$5.50 to \$6.50 on the break cost \$10 to \$10.50 at the high time, wethers then worth \$12 selling down to \$7.50.

Breeding Stock in Demand

At all times feeders wanted thin lambs, and would have taken more of the Colorado run if killers' needs had not forced them to assert priority of right by paying a premium. Choice Idaho lambs went to feeders at \$14.75, most of the Californias and Idahos going out at \$14 to \$14.20, with a sprinkling of Texans at \$12 to \$13.75. Keen demand for young breeding stock was indicated by sales of native yearling ewes at \$11 to \$13 per cwt., with choice range stock at \$12.35 per head.

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STOCKERS SHOW STRENGTH

J. E. P.

ALREADY a healthy stocker and feeder-cattle demand is asserting itself. Maintenance and development will depend on physical conditions in the Corn Belt, but it is improbable that there will be more than enough cattle to go around. The narrow spread between thin and finished steers is the strongest argument against free investment in unfinished cattle, but feed always has been a factor of major importance, and probably always will be. Good to choice stockers at \$8 to \$9 per cwt. look high, especially when contrasted with the series of annual bargain sales during the 1921-25 period; but a definite turn of the road has been reached. The growing corn crop is decidedly backward and on a weather basis. It may run into dry weather, hot winds, or a September frost; in any of which contingencies the much-advertised surplus of the 1925 crop would disappear overnight. A factor in determining demand for and prices of stock cattle when the annual western round-up is in progress is pasture condition in the Mississippi Valley and the growth of aftermath on small-grain stubble. The present prospect is for an abundance of green feed.

Already feeders are showing concern about calf prices. Speculators have been operating on a limited scale, intent on covering their tracks as much as possible. Some early contracts in the Northwest have been turned over at a profit, showing an advancing tendency. One band of Dakota calves was contracted in June at \$25 per head, exclusive of everything dropped after June 1, and within two weeks the buyer resold the top end at \$35 per head, including 50 per cent of heifers. There is little disposition to sell calves so far ahead of weaning time, as many breeders are in a position to winter their increase and get a feed-bill. Demand for yearlings late in the winter and toward the rise of grass may change the attitude of breeders with respect to selling calves in the fall where the crop arrives late. In the Southwest a fall movement to Corn Belt feed-lots has become definite practice.

Heifer-calf feeders have had such satisfactory results with this operation recently that there will be no cheap female youngsters. Segregating heifer calves to develop into fat yearlings that go to market late in the winter and early

spring is now a highly specialized phase of beef-making, although no sphere for a novice or an incompetent feeder. A \$10 market for these "babies" this year will probably insure such attractive prices for heifer calves this fall as to retard the process of rehabilitating western breeding herds. Symptomatic is a disposition to breed dairy cows to beef bulls for the purpose of growing yearlings, which will spread if the butter market does not show a healthier undertone. Many farmers west of the Mississippi have rushed somewhat precipitately into the dairy business, only to discover that it is laborious, irksome, and expensive in the matter of overhead charges, of which labor is an important item. If western beef-bred calves go to substantially higher levels, this tendency to mate beef-bred bulls with dairy cows will become more pronounced.

Demand from killers for cheap cattle is reflected in concern by feeders for common steers of the kind that has been available late in the fall from \$4.50 per cwt. down these many years past. Such stock has made money consistently for several seasons, and under stress of competition will undoubtedly sell high this year. Even now \$6.50 to \$6.75 is the market for inferior stuff, the kind of cattle that goes to Virginia at this season costing \$7 to \$8 per cwt. It should seem that the western breeder is in a strong strategic position—probably the most secure since the Civil War. This opinion may elicit skepticism, as western cattlemen have listened to the siren song of the optimist until it no longer gets respectful hearing, much less credence.

There is, of course, a possibility of soft corn, especially as the growing crop has encountered adverse weather since it appeared above the ground; but a frost in September, always possible, would merely accentuate demand for cattle to salvage grain lacking keeping quality, the history of the business being that soft corn insures a high fall market for feeding cattle, so that with the breeder it promises to be a game of "heads I win, tails you lose." Existing and prospective stock-cattle prices are more calculated to make the feeder walk the floor nights than to worry the man with a herd of young steers in his pasture.

THE KANSAS CITY MARKET

BY M. Y. GRIFFIN

[Bureau of Agricultural Economics]

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 30, 1926.

GRAIN-FED STEERS AND YEARLINGS during the month of June scored price gains of 25 to 50 cents, but grass-fat descriptions, which were in liberal supply at all times, ruled weak to 25 cents lower. Quality of the grain-feds offered was considerably improved, the bulk of the supply grading good to choice. Mixed steers and heifers averaging 856 pounds topped the month's trade at \$10.40, while medium-weight and heavy steers reached \$10.25. Numerous consignments of all representative weights crossed the scales at \$9.50 to \$10. On late sessions only plain-quality grain-feds sold below \$9. The better end of cake-feds and grassers declined 15 to 35 cents, but plain-quality kinds are little changed. Heavy Texas meal-feds cashed up to \$9.50, and a liberal sprinkling of cake-feds brought \$7.75 to \$8.75. Straight grassers of Texas and Oklahoma origin sold mostly at \$6 to \$7.25, with a light quota at \$7.50 to \$8. She-stock is closing 25 to 50 cents higher, with the better grades of heifers showing the most upturn. Choice light and medium-weight heifers in load lots realized \$9.90, and small packages cleared up to \$10.15. Grain-fed cows of choice quality cleared at \$8, but the bulk of the supply consisted of grass-fat kinds selling at \$5 to \$6.25.

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Trade on vealers has been an up-and-down affair, however, the present top of \$11 being the same as last month's close. Stocker and feeder trade has been very light, and values are unchanged.

Hogs.—Some unevenness featured the hog trade throughout the month, but, as a rule, the general trend of prices was toward higher levels. The end of the first ten days found the market at the high point of the year, and the highest since late in 1920, when choice light lights reached \$15. Since that time, however, some weakness developed, erasing a part of the early advance, and closing levels are from 25 to 50 cents over the late days of May. All classes have shared in the upturn, but most of the gain was shown on lights and underweights. Shipping orders have been rather limited throughout the period, but big packers have been good buyers at all times, especially on the medium and strong-weight offerings.

Sheep.—Lamb prices hit the high spot for the year to date during the second week of June, but the month's closing level is on a basis around \$3.50 lower than the high time, and \$2.50 below the previous month's close. Native lambs made the month's top at \$17.75, while at the close \$14.50 secured the best natives offered. Arizona and Idaho supplied most of the range lambs offered, while occasional shipments of alfalfa-pastured Colorados showed up. Mature classes found an outlet at uneven prices. Texas wethers have been fairly plentiful, and closing prices are around 25 cents higher. Two-year-olds topped at \$9.25, while most sales of wethers, generally carrying an end of two-year-olds, ranged from \$8.25 to \$8.75. Fat ewes were scarce, but closing prices are lower, with the best on late days selling at \$6.25.

THE DENVER MARKET

BY W. N. FULTON

DENVER, COLO., July 2, 1926.

THOSE WHO HELD their feed-lot cattle for an advance in the market were partially repaid late in June when values advanced from 50 cents to \$1 per cwt. Later a portion of this advance was lost, but prices at the close of the month show some appreciation as compared with the month before. Steers sold early in June at \$8 to \$9 for the greater portion of the good ones, with choice steers at \$9.25 to \$9.50. The June top, made late in the month, was \$10.15, and numerous loads of good killing steers sold at \$9.25 to \$9.75. At the close of the month, however, the good ones were selling at \$9 to \$9.50. Cows that sold at \$6.50 to \$7.40 in May were finding outlet at \$6.75 to \$7.60 late in June, while the June top on heifers, made on the 28th of the month, was \$10.10. At the close, however, it is doubtful if the same grades would have brought better than \$9.75. Choice heifers were selling late in May at around \$8.50 to \$8.90.

Hogs.—Continued strong demand for hogs is the feature of the market in this division. California operators took a good share of the supply during the month, and local packers also purchased heavily, in spite of liberal direct shipments. The market was active during the month, and prices at the close were slightly higher than those of a month ago. Top hogs were selling at \$13.90 late in May, while the top had advanced to \$14.35 by the middle of June, and about the same top price was prevailing at the end of the month.

Sheep.—Local demand for lambs was good, but the seasonal decline in prices resulted in a loss of approximately \$3 per cwt. during the month. Choice fat spring lambs were selling at \$17.25 at the beginning of June, whereas \$14 was taking them a month later. Good fat ewes now find outlet

around \$5.50 to \$6, as compared with a top of around \$7 a month ago. Practically no contracting of feeder lambs has been done as yet, and feeders are as determined as ever to buy at considerably less than present prevailing prices, or not to purchase. Whether or not they will be able to get the stock at the prices they have set is a question that only the future can determine, but the impression is that the demand is going to be strong enough to hold values up pretty well through the entire fall season.

Horses.—Horse trade was fair during the month of June, and prices show very little change as compared with a month ago. Good draft-horses and mules sell at \$100 to \$175 per head, and good chunks at \$40 to \$90, with light horses all the way from \$20 to \$40.

THE OMAHA MARKET

BY CHARLES BRUCE

[Bureau of Agricultural Economics]

OMAHA, NEB., June 30, 1926.

THE JUNE MOVEMENT of cattle at the Omaha market stands as a record for this month in the history of the yards. Low cost tended to make live-stock feeders market their corn through feeding, and, taken as a whole, quality and finish were better than for a number of years. The predominance of the better grades stimulated inquiry from eastern packing concerns and, with a broad local demand, augmented by this added inquiry from shippers, created a healthy undertone to the entire fat-cattle market. The market was a stable one, with price changes gradual, closing prices on fed steers and yearlings, especially the better grades, reflecting an upturn of 25 to 40 cents. The appearance of cattle off grass permitted some discrimination against the warmed-up offerings, and these, as well as grassers, are barely steady. The closing bulk of steers and yearlings are quoted at \$8.75 to \$10, choice steers and yearlings, all weights, being noted upward to \$10.25, with an extreme top of \$10.40. Better-grade cows and heifers are closing at an advance of 25 to 50 cents, with lower grades steady. Fed heifers are selling largely at \$8 to \$9.50, with the top noted at \$9.85, and cows mostly at \$5.50 to \$7.50, choice earning upward to \$8.50. Bulls are 25 to 50 cents higher. The market on veal calves has been an erratic affair, with price changes rapid and the general trend downward, closing prices being \$2 to \$3 under those at the end of

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Market information furnished.

May. Feeders have held generally steady throughout the month, the volume of this branch of the trade being very small. The bulk of the stockers and feeders have moved at a spread of \$6.75 to \$7.75, and fleshy feeders have been selling upward to \$8.75.

Hogs.—Light receipts the fore part of the month resulted in substantial advances, the top on lights reaching \$14.65 on June 10. Increased receipts toward the end of the month resulted in depression, with packing grades and heavy butchers quoted 25 to 50 cents lower than at the end of May, while lights show an advance of 25 to 40 cents. At the close of the month the bulk of all sales ranged from \$11.50 to \$13.90, with a top of \$14.15.

Sheep.—A two-way market was had on fat lambs during the month of June. During the first eight days, under light receipts, the market on fat lambs soared to the highest June altitude since 1919, with best range lambs reaching \$18. Following this, increased receipts, a breaking dressed-lamb market at eastern cities, and a narrow packer demand resulted in a series of breaks that carried prices sharply lower. Compared with the end of May, fat lambs are around \$3 lower, yearlings \$2.50 lower, and fat sheep 75 cents to \$1 lower. At the close of the month the bulk of fat range lambs sold at \$14.75. The market on feeders has shown only slight variation from day to day, closing quotations on medium to choice range feeding lambs being \$12 to \$14—the same as a month ago.

HIDES IN NEW DECLINE

LOPPING OFF ANOTHER HALF-CENT in values toward the end of June brought a degree of activity into the hide market, resulting in packers cleaning up their stocks on most descriptions. The movement is estimated at around 135,000 hides. Native steers are now bringing 13 cents; light native cows, 12½ cents; heavy Texas and butt brands, 12 cents; and Colorado, heavy Texas, and branded cows, 11½ cents.

Country hides remain quiet, in sympathy with the trend in packers. Tanners are offering up to 12½ cents for extremes, and 9½ cents represents the limit on buffs.

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LIVE-STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS

Monday, June 28, 1926

CATTLE AND CALVES

| | CHICAGO | KANSAS CITY | OMAHA |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| STEERS: | | | |
| Good to Choice (1,500 lbs. up)..... | \$ 9.25-10.50 | \$ 8.85-10.25 | \$ 8.80-10.00 |
| Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.)..... | 10.00-10.50 | 9.50-10.25 | 9.50-10.20 |
| Good | 9.35-10.10 | 8.80- 9.50 | 8.80- 9.50 |
| Medium | 8.85- 9.50 | 7.25- 8.80 | 7.75- 8.80 |
| Common | 7.25- 8.35 | 5.85- 7.25 | 6.00- 7.75 |
| Choice (1,100 lbs. down)..... | 10.10-10.50 | 9.65-10.35 | 9.50-10.25 |
| Good | 9.50-10.10 | 9.00- 9.75 | 8.80- 9.60 |
| Medium | 8.25- 9.50 | 7.35- 9.00 | 7.75- 8.90 |
| Common | 7.00- 8.25 | 5.75- 7.35 | 6.00- 7.75 |
| Canners and Cutters..... | 5.75- 7.00 | 4.75- 5.75 | 4.90- 6.00 |
| LIGHT YEARLING STEERS AND HEIFERS: | | | |
| Good to Choice (850 lbs. down)..... | 9.00-10.35 | 8.75-10.25 | 8.60- 9.90 |
| HEIFERS: | | | |
| Good to Choice (850 lbs. up)..... | 7.50-10.25 | 7.00- 9.25 | 7.25- 9.50 |
| Common to Medium (all weights).... | 6.25- 8.25 | 5.00- 7.85 | 5.15- 8.10 |
| COWS: | | | |
| Good to Choice..... | 6.50- 8.00 | 6.15- 8.00 | 6.35- 8.25 |
| Common to Medium..... | 4.85- 6.50 | 4.75- 6.15 | 5.10- 6.35 |
| Canners and Cutters..... | 3.75- 4.85 | 3.60- 4.75 | 3.75- 5.10 |
| BULLS: | | | |
| Good to Choice (1,500 lbs. up)..... | 6.40- 7.00 | 5.75- 6.25 | 6.00- 6.60 |
| Good to Choice (1,500 lbs. down).... | 6.50- 7.25 | 6.00- 6.75 | 6.00- 6.85 |
| CALVES: | | | |
| Medium to Choice..... | 6.50- 8.00 | 6.00- 8.50 | 5.50- 8.00 |
| Culls and Common..... | 4.75- 6.50 | 4.00- 6.00 | 4.25- 5.50 |
| VEALERS: | | | |
| Medium to Choice..... | 9.00-12.50 | 7.50-10.00 | 7.00- 9.50 |
| Culls and Common..... | 6.00- 9.00 | 4.50- 7.50 | 4.50- 7.00 |
| FEEDERS AND STOCKERS— | | | |
| STEERS: | | | |
| Good to Choice (800 lbs. up)..... | 8.35- 9.00 | 7.65- 9.00 | 7.85- 9.00 |
| Common to Medium..... | 6.35- 8.35 | 6.00- 7.65 | 6.15- 7.85 |
| Good to Choice (800 lbs. down).... | 8.00- 9.00 | 7.65- 9.15 | 7.85- 9.15 |
| Common to Medium..... | 6.15- 8.00 | 5.25- 7.65 | 5.65- 7.85 |
| HEIFERS: | | | |
| Common to Choice..... | 5.65- 6.85 | 5.00- 7.50 | 5.25- 7.50 |
| COWS: | | | |
| Common to Choice..... | 4.65- 5.75 | 4.25- 5.50 | 4.25- 5.75 |
| CALVES: | | | |
| Common to Choice..... | | 5.00- 9.00 | 5.00- 8.85 |

HOGS

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Top | \$14.75 | \$14.60 | \$14.25 |
| Bulk of Sales..... | 13.30-14.20 | 13.85-14.25 | 12.50-14.10 |
| Heavy Weights, Medium to Choice..... | 13.25-14.25 | 13.50-14.15 | 13.00-14.00 |
| Medium Weights, Medium to Choice.... | 13.90-14.65 | 14.00-14.35 | 13.40-14.15 |
| Light Weights, Common to Choice..... | 13.75-14.75 | 14.15-14.60 | 13.90-14.25 |
| Light Lights, Common to Choice..... | 13.85-14.75 | 14.25-14.60 | 13.90-14.25 |
| Packing Sows | 12.00-12.50 | 12.00-12.50 | 11.50-12.50 |

SHEEP AND LAMBS

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| LAMBS: | | | |
| Medium to Choice (84 lbs. down)..... | \$13.25-15.75 | \$13.00-15.25 | \$12.75-15.00 |
| Culls and Common (all weights)..... | 10.00-13.25 | 8.50-13.00 | 9.50-12.75 |
| YEARLING WETHERS: | | | |
| Medium to Choice..... | 10.50-13.50 | 9.00-13.00 | 9.50-13.00 |
| EWES: | | | |
| Common to Choice..... | 4.50- 6.75 | 3.25- 6.00 | 4.00- 6.50 |
| Canners and Culls..... | 1.50- 4.50 | 1.00- 3.25 | 1.50- 4.00 |

FEEDSTUFFS

ONLY A SLIGHT DECLINE is noted in cottonseed cake and meal, f.o.b. Texas points, which on July 2 sold at \$27.25. The following hay prices were quoted at the Kansas City market on June 30: Prairie—No. 1, \$17 to \$17.50; No. 2, \$15 to \$16.50; No. 3, \$11 to \$14.50; packing, \$7 to \$11; alfalfa—choice, \$18 to \$19.50; No. 1, \$17 to \$17.50; standard, \$15 to \$16.50; No. 2, \$13 to \$14.50; No. 3, \$9 to \$12.50; timothy—No. 1, \$16.50 to \$17; standard, \$15 to \$16; No. 2, \$12.50 to \$14.50; No. 3, \$10.50 to \$12; clover-mixed—light, \$15.50 to \$17; No. 1, \$13.50 to \$15; No. 2, \$11.50 to \$13; clover, new—No. 1, \$13 to \$14; No. 2, \$10 to \$12.50.

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-four markets for the month of May, 1926, compared with May, 1925, and for the five months ending May, 1926 and 1925:

RECEIPTS

| | May | | Five Months Ending May | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|------------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1926 | 1925 |
| Cattle* | 1,894,047 | 1,736,589 | 8,806,471 | 8,821,945 |
| Calves | 616,582 | 597,436 | 2,770,168 | 2,799,739 |
| Hogs | 3,037,308 | 3,283,097 | 17,426,991 | 20,720,332 |
| Sheep | 1,717,271 | 1,689,108 | 7,948,232 | 7,588,824 |

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

| | May | | Five Months Ending May | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1926 | 1925 |
| Cattle* | 668,054 | 602,289 | 3,049,779 | 3,174,542 |
| Hogs | 1,163,772 | 1,345,753 | 6,781,441 | 7,539,757 |
| Sheep | 837,768 | 876,525 | 3,539,746 | 3,612,635 |

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

| | May | | Five Months Ending May | |
|---------|---------|---------|------------------------|-----------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1926 | 1925 |
| Cattle* | 217,867 | 215,707 | 1,001,123 | 1,099,630 |
| Calves | 16,780 | 17,712 | 73,508 | 77,226 |
| Hogs | 67,639 | 35,972 | 300,608 | 201,616 |
| Sheep | 130,101 | 177,663 | 581,648 | 637,709 |

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

| | May | | Five Months Ending May | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|------------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1926 | 1925 |
| Cattle* | 1,193,943 | 1,123,191 | 5,685,357 | 5,582,400 |
| Calves | 436,883 | 456,591 | 2,020,759 | 2,125,420 |
| Hogs | 1,872,123 | 1,930,964 | 10,642,631 | 13,175,042 |
| Sheep | 884,719 | 829,791 | 4,405,921 | 3,996,128 |

*Includes calves.

†Includes stockers and feeders.

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY of storage holdings of frozen and cured meats on June 1, 1926, as compared with June 1, 1925, and average holdings on that date for the last five years (in pounds):

| Commodity | June 1, 1926 | June 1, 1925 | Five-Year Average |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Frozen beef | 26,733,000 | 46,887,000 | 51,252,000 |
| *Cured beef | 25,973,000 | 27,731,000 | 23,171,000 |
| Lamb and mutton | 1,695,000 | 1,913,000 | 5,364,000 |
| Frozen pork | 117,107,000 | 180,645,000 | 180,415,000 |
| *Dry salt pork | 137,494,000 | 142,292,000 | 192,210,000 |
| *Pickled pork | 326,023,000 | 425,481,000 | 424,442,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 47,934,000 | 80,070,000 | 71,298,000 |
| Totals | 682,959,000 | 905,019,000 | 948,152,000 |
| Lard | 106,820,000 | 138,295,000 | 131,313,000 |

*Cured or in process of cure.

"I have enjoyed your valuable paper for many years."—
N. S. ROMLEY, Kennedy, Neb.

WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED MEATS

Monday, June 28, 1926

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL

| STEERS (heavy weights, 700 lbs. up) : CHICAGO | | BOSTON | NEW YORK |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Choice | \$16.00-17.00 | \$16.50-17.00 | \$17.00-18.00 |
| Good | 15.00-16.00 | 15.50-16.50 | 16.00-17.50 |
| STEERS (light and medium weights, 700 lbs. down) : | | | |
| Choice | 17.00-18.00 | | 17.50-18.50 |
| Good | 15.50-17.00 | | 16.00-17.50 |
| STEERS (all weights) : | | | |
| Medium | 13.50-15.00 | 14.00-15.50 | 14.00-15.50 |
| Common | 11.50-13.50 | 12.50-14.00 | 12.50-14.00 |
| COWS : | | | |
| Good | 13.00-14.00 | 14.00-14.50 | 13.50-14.50 |
| Medium | 11.50-13.00 | 12.50-14.00 | 13.00-14.00 |
| Common | 10.50-11.50 | 11.50-12.50 | 11.50-12.50 |
| VEALERS : | | | |
| Choice | 19.00-21.00 | | 19.00-23.00 |
| Good | 17.00-19.00 | | 17.00-20.00 |
| Medium | 14.00-16.00 | 16.00-17.00 | 16.00-18.00 |
| Common | 13.00-14.00 | 15.00-16.00 | 14.00-16.00 |

FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| LAMB (30 to 42 lbs.) : | | | |
| Choice | \$32.00-33.00 | \$27.00-30.00 | \$30.00-33.00 |
| Good | 28.00-31.00 | 25.00-28.00 | 29.00-32.00 |
| LAMB (all weights) : | | | |
| Medium | 25.00-27.00 | 22.00-26.00 | 28.00-30.00 |
| Common | 20.00-25.00 | 19.00-23.00 | 24.00-26.00 |
| MUTTON (ewes) : | | | |
| Good | 12.00-14.00 | 13.00-15.00 | 15.00-17.00 |
| Medium | 10.00-12.00 | 11.00-13.00 | 13.00-15.00 |
| Common | 9.00-10.00 | 9.00-11.00 | 11.00-13.00 |

BETTER TONE IN WOOL

J. E. P.

WOOL TRADE is in much better condition, statistically and otherwise, than at the corresponding period of 1925, when the market was groggy after the collapse of an ill-advised speculative boom, which resulted in severe loss to eastern dealers, some of whom have not yet recuperated. That the trend is upward was indicated by bids late in June for

Consistent Uniformity

Come on, let's go for a little ride through the W. H. R. pastures. A glance here in the "heifer pasture" with 300 yearling heifers impresses you instantly with the **consistent uniformity**. Across the road the yearling bulls look as good (and bulls are hard to raise, you know). And so on down along the Creek—two-year-old heifers, breeding cows, herd bulls, ALL bring home the fact of **consistent uniformity**; a result only accomplished through years of painstaking, persistent effort.

Write us when you want good Herefords;
you are assured of getting only the best.

The Lazears and Otto Fulscher

WYOMING HEREFORD RANCH
CHEYENNE, WYO.

western wool at prices around 5 cents per pound higher than could have been elicited thirty days previously, indicating that both manufacturers and dealers are in receptive mood and that wool is good property. Holders, both in the West and in the fleece states, are stiff in their ideas of values, but at an advance of a few cents per pound, which is not improbable, a lot of wool would be available. However, with growers in their present mood, little dumping will be done, as confidence exists that prices will work higher later in the season. Optimism has been generated by heavy shipments of foreign wools, in bond at Boston, to Europe—a movement that naturally inserts a stout prop under the domestic price list.

Wailing in the camp of the textile industry is still distinctly audible, and is open to the suspicion of being chronic. This does not alter the facts that people are buying clothes, that stocks of manufactured goods are low, and that the purchasing capacity of the industrial, if not the agrarian, element is healthy. With respect to the textile industry, the specific accusation of incompetency is made by no less an authority than Charles J. Webb, of Boston, who advocated resorting to legitimate propaganda to stimulate the use of wool and meet competition of rayon and other substitutes. "Wool people, both merchants and manufacturers, are as backward as they represent their business to be," he said. "Almost everything save woolen goods, from atomizers to aeroplanes, is being boosted by radio talks, advertising, and other methods, in accordance with the psychology of the hour. Many wool-manufacturers are still aiming at war-time profits, waiting for something to turn up, and refusing to realize that the turn is down."

Another Webb idea is that about one-third of the woolen machinery in use is obsolete and should be scrapped. Several years ago most of the packers were forced to adopt this expedient, and other industries have found it economical. Evidently it is time for the woolen and worsted people to take stock and chart a new course, even if half of what they say concerning present conditions in the industry is true. The public is paying big prices for clothing, much of which is of doubtful quality, with respect to both manufacture and materials, so that relief is not possible by increased consumption. The shoe industry is prosperous, although prices have been sharply reduced compared with post-war conditions. Wool conditions certainly deserve serious consideration, as something is radically wrong somewhere. There is nothing in the present situation or the prospect to justify grow-more-wool propaganda.

FOR SALE Ranch in Arizona

Near St. Johns, Apache County (East Central Part of State)

Comprises all but four of odd-numbered sections of township, and by homestead or lease from state, at nominal rental, all even-numbered sections. Excellent grazing; three or more sections good agricultural land; all fenced; fine free range on outside; plenty of stock water.

About 650 head of high-grade Herefords, one year old or over, go with ranch. Should brand more than 300 calves this year.

Reason for wanting to sell, advancing age of owner. Favorable terms. Address

C. H. ODELL, St. Johns, Ariz.
or E. S. GOSNEY, 26 N. Marengo, Pasadena, Cal.

A brisk movement from eastern concentration points, both to worsted and to woolen mills, reflects the recent heavy export movement of wool in bond at the Atlantic seaboard. Sentiment has improved, bids are more insistent, and the trend of prices is higher, although actual transactions show no substantial advances in quotations. Neither in the West nor in the fleece states is there the slightest disposition to hurry matters. Dealers figure that, at slightly higher prices, plenty of wool to satisfy present hand-to-mouth demand will be forthcoming, while growers are confident that lower prices are impossible, and a prospect exists that their holdings will realize more money if held. Carrying wool on the farm involves no expense and little risk.

There is an all-around better feeling in the market than a month ago. Considerable wool has changed hands recently at prices 3 to 5 cents per pound higher than were bid then, indicating that it is not a buyers' market. Low wools are selling well, and medium grades have been fairly stabilized. If growers stand pat, and foreign markets hold their present strength, it should be possible to mark prices up a few notches. The situation and the prospect are exactly the reverse of a year ago.

MAY'S FOREIGN TRADE

A DECREASE IN IMPORTS for May of \$80,000,000 under April's total turned the unfavorable trade balance for the first four months of this year into an export surplus of \$38,000,000. The figures follow, with comparative data for 1925:

| | May | | Eleven Months Ending May | |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1926 | 1925 |
| Exports..... | \$356,000,000 | \$370,945,110 | \$4,414,901,173 | \$4,541,233,389 |
| Imports..... | 318,000,000 | 327,518,721 | 4,126,752,722 | 3,498,912,640 |
| Excess of exports. | \$ 38,000,000 | \$ 43,426,389 | \$ 288,148,451 | \$1,042,320,749 |

EXPORTS OF MEATS IN MAY

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS and animal fats for the month of May and the eleven months ending May, 1926, as compared with the corresponding periods of the previous fiscal year, were as below (in pounds):

BEEF PRODUCTS

| | May | | Eleven Months Ending May | |
|--------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1926 | 1925 |
| Beef, fresh..... | 142,573 | 287,119 | 2,737,032 | 2,915,467 |
| Beef, pickled..... | 1,188,183 | 1,697,014 | 17,548,376 | 20,754,402 |
| Beef, canned..... | 171,631 | 213,442 | 2,200,645 | 1,513,431 |
| Oleo oil..... | 9,690,185 | 10,720,365 | 80,742,314 | 96,584,694 |
| Totals..... | 11,192,572 | 12,917,940 | 103,228,367 | 121,767,994 |

PORK PRODUCTS

| | May | | Eleven Months Ending May | |
|-------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| | 1926 | 1925 | 1926 | 1925 |
| Pork, fresh..... | 313,792 | 887,023 | 14,993,608 | 26,786,734 |
| Pork, pickled..... | 2,093,679 | 1,826,336 | 26,837,780 | 24,738,341 |
| Sausage, canned..... | 217,920 | 199,592 | 3,093,814 | 3,539,273 |
| Bacon..... | 12,224,866 | 11,064,158 | 155,757,562 | 198,750,163 |
| Cumberland sides..... | 820,836 | 1,490,400 | 20,149,611 | 28,636,475 |
| Hams and shoulders..... | 16,682,111 | 20,034,713 | 195,227,834 | 252,341,000 |
| Wiltshire sides..... | 376,165 | 886,104 | 11,111,146 | 14,059,334 |
| Lard..... | 58,154,212 | 71,136,079 | 638,963,664 | 782,936,390 |
| Lard compounds..... | 480,522 | 713,281 | 14,581,486 | 7,952,873 |
| Neutral lard..... | 1,712,527 | 1,272,514 | 18,999,746 | 19,028,359 |
| Margarine..... | 45,324 | 91,463 | 1,217,660 | 826,473 |
| Totals..... | 93,421,954 | 109,601,663 | 1,100,933,811 | 1,304,595,415 |

FOREIGN

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to *The Producer*]

LONDON, June 14, 1926.

THE FEEDING OF A GREAT NATION is rightly supposed to be a delicate business, subject to easy maladjustment. In ordinary trading, the factors of supply and demand occasionally prove such vital factors as to disrupt this great organization. All the more wonderful, therefore, has it been that the general strike in May not only failed to disturb the nation's stomach, as it paralyzed its general trade, but only served to prove that a perishable article like meat can withstand without loss the exigencies of transport paralysis extending throughout the country.

At midnight on Monday, May 3, when all the transport and dock workers, in common with all the other handling and distributive trades, ceased work in sympathy with the miners of Great Britain, there were literally thousands of tons of meat merchandise more or less precariously situated on ship, quay, wharf, in the store, and on the hoof up and down the country. The most thorough inquiries have failed to elicit any reports of wastage of this giant food resource when the general strike was called off. The slaughtermen at Birkenhead, where the lairages are such a big feeder of the population radiating from the Mersey port, downed tools with the rest of the workers, but they slaughtered the thousands of cattle on hand before they quit. In Liverpool, London, Southampton, and Avonmouth docks the meat ships hardly closed hatches; for, with a quietness and order which seemed extraordinary, there swiftly came into existence a meat-control organization which reminded one of the old war days of a decade ago, although now carried on voluntarily among traders without government commandeering.

The Board of Trade department of the government recalled to Westminster as chief meat commissioner the one who had had the best experience of such organization as the last director of meat supplies in the war period—namely, Sir Philip Proctor. He, in liaison with Sir Gordon Campbell—the most popular figure in the British meat trade, and president of the British Incorporated Society of Meat Importers—handled the whole business of imported meat throughout Great Britain through an emergency committee comprising representatives of the leading importers. This committee discharged practically every function—or rather governed it—included in the total operation of meat-handling between ship discharge and reaching the retailer. Voluntary labor was directed to its

several quarters, dock workers were put at work, permits were issued for ship-handling, lorries were requisitioned for meat transit, police and military protection was marshaled for meat convoys, and altogether the entire operation was managed on a co-operative basis, in which for the time being every interest, including the big American meat-handling companies, was content and willing to sink its own affairs for the common good, and carry on merely as a unit in the meat supply of the country.

The chief stress naturally centered upon the management of the chilled-beef business, as this was a more perishable matter than the frozen mutton and lamb cargoes lying in store and dock under ample refrigeration. The cold stores, by the way, throughout the kingdom, functioned regularly, without break, as the engineering units of labor in these establishments did not cease work, and the other chamber-handling and portage labor had been replaced by amateur workers.

American readers would be interested to have seen the quality of some of this amateur labor. Whole battalions of joyous university undergraduates merrily humped carcasses on their shoulders and raced truckloads from chamber to cart at the Thames-side wharves. In the great Central Market at Smithfield, office staffs supplanted burly porters, and London was fed. There was not a restaurant in the metropolis that lacked its normal supplies of meat of all classes. Just before the strike the London cold stores were well stocked with nearly two million colonial lamb carcasses and half a million mutton carcasses, and the general meat position, in consequence, was safer than usual for a beleaguered country. The sight of a meat convoy of two hundred big insulated and other vans journeying from the London docks to Smithfield, in the heart of the Old City, was one to look upon. The motor vans in procession were punctuated by warlike armored cars, with their tin-hatted soldiers and an accompanying regiment of sturdy guards.

The delays resulting from the strike hold-up in some cases meant that chilled beef was nearly sixty days en route between the Argentine killing-floor and the retailer in Britain, and this emergency was met by the ships cooling the meat down to about 20 degrees Fahrenheit before releasing it at the English docks. A word as to prices: It stands to the common credit that everyone loyally co-operated to preserve

Wanted to Buy

Your Cake Sacks and Empty Feed Sacks of All Kinds
Write for Prices and Shipping Tags

Reference—First National Bank of Fort Worth

THE TAYLOR-RUBLE CO.

P. O. Box 772

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

STOP ABORTION

THIS PROVED LOW-COST WAY—AT OUR RISK

Now cattle-breeders can be rid of abortion germs in the same successful way used on government and other herds for five years. Science has established an easy way to kill this germ. You simply mix Germ-a-Tone with the salt at feeding time. Cattle love its taste. You use no vaccinations or injections. And you clean your whole herd at one time—at the amazing low cost of 25 cents per head per year.

"My father hasn't lost a calf in the two years we've used Germ-a-Tone," writes Fern, Iowa. Dr. Bennett, veterinarian, says: "I have used Germ-a-Tone to my satisfaction and will prescribe it in all cases of abortion."

"We sure are grateful to the guy that got up Germ-a-Tone," writes B. V. Lewis, Carthage, Mo.

"Have not lost a calf since I began feeding Germ-a-Tone," says G. W. Funk, Genola, Minn.

Thousands of others report the same.

Simply send for convincing evidence—letter photographs. Or, if you prefer, try it on your herd at our risk. Send \$5 for a four-pound can—enough to treat 100 head three months. Get your money back if not satisfied. Don't risk delay—act now!

You can have a 100 per cent calf crop by using Germ-a-Tone

THE GERMICIDE COMPANY

1316 Lincoln Street, Denver, Colorado

normal prices, voluntarily suggesting and agreeing with the government on a maximum fixation. Chilled beef—the hardest thing to handle—was priced at 15 cents per pound for hinds wholesale, colonial frozen lamb at 20½ cents, and mutton at 13 cents; retail prices being only slightly advanced on account of the heavy costs of handling under strike conditions.

The general strike of 1926 was a disastrous interlude in the British meat trade which it is devoutly hoped will not remain to be further reported upon in this column.

ARGENTINE CATTLE TRADE STAGNATING

DURING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS of 1926 the Argentine Republic imported twenty-four head of American dairy cattle, reports the United States trade commissioner at Buenos Aires. The dairy industry of Argentina is in rapid development. On the other hand, the demand for the beef breeds has fallen off, at least for the time being, as many English exporters found a very dull trade for the animals which they had brought out the past season. Argentina has heretofore been almost exclusively a Shorthorn country, but with the development of the cattle industry in the northern part of the republic there is likely to develop a demand for Herefords, which are the favorites in Uruguay.

Exports of live cattle for slaughter are increasing. About 1,000 head are shipped weekly to Chile by rail across the Andes, and from 2,000 to 3,000 each week go to the continent of Europe, principally Belgium, where they are killed for export to British markets.

The year 1925, says a correspondent to the *National Provisioner*, was not favorable for the meat-packing industry of South America. Nearly all the packing companies suffered losses. Choice cattle for chilled beef cost 5 to 6 cents a pound at Buenos Aires, while animals of medium quality for the continental frozen-beef trade brought 4 to 4½ cents a

pound. These prices seem low to breeders in the United States, but correspondingly low prices on tallow and hides, and the high expenses caused by the hot climate, combined to make the business unprofitable. A number of plants have already closed down, and others are preparing to do so.

In spite of this state of affairs, Argentine breeders and feeders are not satisfied with the prices they are getting, and there is still some talk about erecting co-operative packing plants with government assistance.

GERMANY'S AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS

NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROGRESS MADE by German agriculture toward recovery from the depression of the war period, it is likely that in the future a greater importation of foodstuffs will be required than before the conflict, says the Department of Agriculture in a recently issued bulletin, "Agricultural Survey of Europe—Germany." The German hog population diminished greatly during the war, and scarcity of feed has made it difficult to fatten hogs to their pre-war weights. As a consequence, the market for American pork products has improved. Butter is scarce and expensive, which has resulted in larger quantities of the cheaper brands of American lard being used as a substitute. This demand is likely to continue. On the other hand, consumption of American bacon and refined lard is expected to decline.

Since the numbers of all classes of live stock in Germany are below those of the years immediately preceding the war, smaller amounts of feedstuffs are now being imported. In such feeds as are shipped in, the United States has replaced Russia as the most important source of supply. Corn imports at present are of relatively little importance, as few German farmers are familiar with the use of this grain as a stock feed. Of barley, following the short crop of 1924, large exportations were made from the United States to Germany.

German imports of bread grains and flour from the United States are somewhat smaller than before the war; but, as bread-grain consumption is still much below the pre-war level, a larger trade in these articles is to be looked for.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN LANDS

Argentina's Corn Crop

Latest (official) estimates of the corn harvest of Argentina for the current season (1925-26) place it at 279,000,000 bushels—an increase of 92,702,000 bushels over last year. Of this quantity, about 200,000,000 bushels will be available for export.

British Feeders Want More Canadian Cattle

Meat-dealers and cattle-feeders in Great Britain are continuing their agitation for admission of all Canadian cattle on the same condition as Irish. For this purpose it is sought to revive the Canadian Cattle Association, which went out of existence after its fight against the embargo had been won. British farmers generally are opposed to the importation of breeding stock.

Australian Meat Shops in Great Britain

It has been suggested by a member of the Australian Meat Council that the only way in which Australia can compete with Argentina in the British meat trade is by establishing its own shops, giving the salesmen a bonus on all meat sold; the shops to be conducted by private enterprise, with government assistance. Meat shops in Great Britain under Argentine control number between 3,000 and 5,000.

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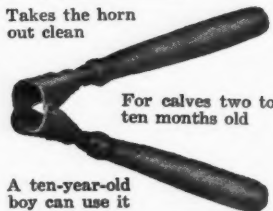
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For calves two to
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money back
if
not all we
claim.
On market
for
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ROUND THE RANGE

JUNE CONDITION OF RANGE AND LIVE STOCK

Ranges.—Ranges in the Southwest were the best in years, and the supply of feed in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona promised to be good throughout the summer, says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in its survey of June 1. Pastures in Oklahoma had improved, but dry conditions in western Kansas and Nebraska had held down the supply of grass. Ranges in Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado were reported to be excellent, with good prospects for summer feed. The dry situation in the western Dakotas, eastern Montana, and north-eastern Wyoming was relieved by rain late in May, but this territory was still short of moisture. In the region west of the Continental Divide, Idaho reported need of rain, while on the high ranges of Oregon and Washington a short snowfall had cut the supply of moisture. Feed prospects in Utah and Nevada were excellent, but rain would be needed later for summer ranges. California ranges were very good, with favorable prospects on high summer ranges. Condition of ranges was placed at 95 per cent of normal, compared with 94 per cent in May and 86 per cent a year ago.

Cattle.—Cattle were generally reported as in good to excellent condition. They had wintered in fine shape, spring feed had been good, and gains had been above the average. In the Southwest, cattle were in the best shape in years, with prospects of those moving during the summer being in unusually good flesh. The calf crop to date had been above average, except in a few places that were dry last season. Local demand for stock cattle was much stronger than a year ago, with prices considerably better. Condition of cattle was 95 per cent of normal, compared with 94 per cent in May and 87 per cent a year ago.

Sheep.—Sheep conditions in the West were most favorable. Ewes wintered in good shape, and weather conditions had been very favorable for lambing. The lamb crop seemed to be very large, and, with good feed, the lambs were making a rapid growth. Lamb contracting had been rather limited, with a few of the more desirable feeder lambs being contracted at around 10 cents. During May

wool sales were limited, following considerable selling earlier. Wool prices had generally ranged from 30 to 35 cents, with slightly higher prices in Texas. Considerable wool will be consigned un-

less buying becomes more active. Summer feed prospects were very good. Condition of sheep and lambs was placed at 99 per cent—the same as in May and comparing with 95 per cent last year.

CATTLE ON FLINT HILLS AND OSAGE PASTURES

Flint Hills, Kansas.—The movement of cattle into the Flint Hills of Kansas during the first five months of 1926 was about 6 per cent less than last spring, according to a report issued by the Denver office of the Bureau of Agricultural

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Economics early in June. A survey of the district shows that about 244,000 cattle moved in this spring, compared with 260,000 in 1925. Spring movement was decidedly later than a year ago, only 64 per cent of the receipts being in April, while in 1925, 88 per cent arrived in April.

Cattle arriving from the Southwest

RANCHES FOR SALE

Chase County, Kansas

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1,640 acres..... | \$ 82,000 |
| 1,920 acres..... | 96,000 |
| 2,500 acres..... | 100,000 |
| 2,720 acres..... | 163,200 |
| 5,530 acres..... | 200,000 |

Clark County, Kansas

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 4,936 acres..... | \$100,000 |
| 5,320 acres..... | 120,000 |

New Mexico

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 6,500 acres..... | \$ 10.00 per acre |
| 12,000 acres..... | 7.50 per acre |
| 33,000 acres..... | 3.00 per acre |
| 36,200 acres..... | 350,000 |
| 103,000 acres..... | 5.00 per acre |

Texas

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 30,000 acres..... | \$ 6.00 per acre |
| 29,000 acres..... | 11.00 per acre |
| 8,807 acres..... | 10.00 per acre |

All well improved. Full particulars given upon inquiry.

P. J. NORTON, Strong City, Kan.

For Sale

Sheep outfit complete — 5,500 young breeding ewes; 1,500 ewe lambs. Sheep will not be sold separately from ranches and equipment. For price and particulars apply to

HANDLEY BROS.

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4114 Packers Ave., Union Stock Yards, Chicago.

WANTED

Position by young man, age 29, college education along agricultural lines, and practical cattle experience on range, with large cattle company in West as range foreman, or office work with opportunity. Salary open. References. Now located on Arizona ranch. Address

FLOYD E. BETTS, care of The Producer, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado.

were in much better flesh than a year ago, and on June 1 all the native stock and Texas offerings were in excellent flesh and health. Pastures are not so good as a year ago, being rated at about 90 per cent of normal, compared with 103 per cent in 1925. Because of the lateness of the grass this spring and the delayed movement into this district, early summer shipments of grass-fat stuff will be much lighter than last year. The grass-fat movement may be expected to approximate that of 1924 rather than the 1925 season. In 1924 the market movement was not large until August, and did not reach its peak until late in September. The 1925 movement was very heavy in July and reached its peak late in August.

Last year witnessed a decided clean-up of native stock and hold-overs. With favorable conditions during the remainder of the grazing season, and a good forage-crop outlook, it is therefore not likely that this year's movement from July to December will much exceed 320,000. The market movement from the Flint Hills district from July to December, 1925, amounted to 353,000 head.

Osage Country, Oklahoma.—A survey of the Osage country of Oklahoma indicates that about 16 per cent fewer cattle are on pasture than a year ago, the number being placed at 160,000 head, compared with 190,000 in 1925. Shipments into the territory this year were only 82 per cent of last year's, but the carry-over, including shipments during the winter months, was larger.

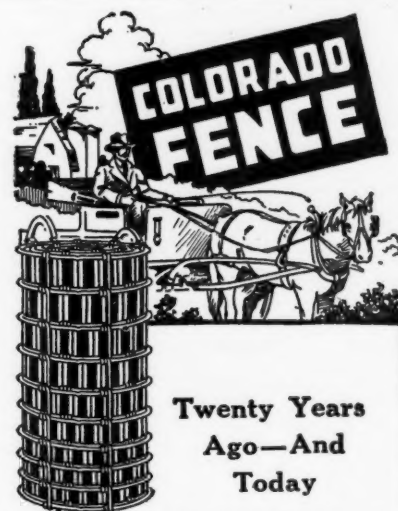
Condition of the cattle is good to excellent. Pastures were late in starting, and did not "green up" so quickly as last season. Cattle consequently did not begin to put on flesh so early as last year. It is the general opinion that the movement to market will be about three or four weeks later than in 1925.

Pastures are rated at 94 per cent of normal, against 98 per cent on June 1, 1925. A heavy rain on June 2 greatly improved the grass.

PIG SURVEY IN THE CORN BELT

An increase of 3.5 per cent in the number of sows farrowed this spring as compared with last year, a decrease of 0.5 per cent in pigs saved (5.54 and 5.78, respectively), and an increase of 36.4 per cent in sows bred to farrow this fall are shown by the pig survey of June 1 for the eleven Corn Belt states, undertaken by the Department of Agriculture in co-operation with the Post-Office Department through the rural mail-carriers.

Conditions this year—such as prices of hogs and corn, hog-price ratio, present



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Ago—And
Today



COLORADO FENCE was being used by farmers and ranchmen more than 20 years ago, in the horse and buggy days, when the automobile was a new contraption and the aeroplane only a dream.

To-day, much of that twenty-year old fence is still giving service and protection. Thousands of additional users have joined the COLORADO FENCE army and still others buy it day after day. Time has tested it; a generation of service has proved its superiority.

COLORADO FENCE is made from C.F.&I. Copper Bearing Steel, specially galvanized to resist rust, wear and time. It gives you 10% to 25% greater life; insures real economy. Accept no substitute.

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WOOL BED BLANKETS AND BATTING

We are now equipped to manufacture your virgin wool into bed blankets and batting at moderate cost to you. Custom work a specialty. Give us a trial.

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feed supplies, etc.—indicate that the breeding intentions will be more nearly carried out this fall than in any other fall since the surveys were started, in the opinion of the estimators. A gain in fall farrowings of at least 25 per cent does not seem unlikely. In actual numbers, this would mean an increase of about 700,000 sows farrowing in the Corn Belt, and of between 3,500,000 and 4,000,000 pigs saved.

MILK CONSUMPTION INCREASING

Milk consumption in the United States last year reached the highest point in the nation's history, the quantity consumed in fluid form being 54,326,000,000 pounds, which was an increase of 1,554,000,000 pounds over 1924, according to an estimate by the Department of Agriculture. Per-capita consumption of milk and cream for the country as a whole is estimated at 1.20 pints a day. Milk consumption increased in most of the larger cities, especially those having a well-organized system of supply or in which milk campaigns have been conducted recently. Per-capita consumption of cream averaged 0.04 of a pint a day.

FARM PRICE INDEX AT LOW LEVEL

The general average of farm-product prices remained at the low point for the year during the month from May 15 to June 15, according to the Department of Agriculture, the index number being 139, against 148 for the same period a year ago, using prices for the five years just preceding the war as a base at 100. There was a gain in the price-level of meat animals from 148 in May to 154 in June, but this was offset by decreases in grain, dairy and poultry products, and fruits and vegetables.

The general level of farm prices is now about 13 per cent below the level of non-agricultural wholesale prices. Non-agricultural prices remained unchanged in May, but farm prices dropped 1 point, the relative purchasing power of farm products being 87 in May, compared with 88 in April and 90 in May a year ago.

PROGRESSIVE HOG RAISING

A new booklet, "Progressive Hog Raising," has been issued by Armour's Live Stock Bureau, under the joint authorship of Edward N. Wentworth and Tage U. H. Ellinger. Its 160 duodecimo pages (which means convenient pocket size) are crammed full with information on the breeding, feeding, and marketing of swine. Indeed, there are few subjects connected with the hog-raising industry on which the reader will look in

vain for valuable data. Excellent half-tone illustrations are scattered throughout the work.

The book should be in the hands of every hog-producer. Copies may be had by writing Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Union Stock Yards, Chicago.

HAIR OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS HAS MONETARY VALUE

Last year nearly four million dollars went into the pockets of producers of live stock in this country through the commercial value of its hair, we are informed by Armour & Co. Thus the hair becomes a factor in determining live-stock prices.

A large portion of the stiffer hair derived from animals is utilized in the curled-hair industry, which is one branch of the manifold activities conducted by a modern packing plant. Horse tails, cattle switches, horse manes, and hog bristles—in quality and value ranking in the order named—are employed extensively in the manufacture of high-grade mattresses and upholstery. The hair first goes through a particular process of cleaning and sterilization, after which it is braided and twisted into ropes, so that, when the ropes are combed out, each individual hair is curled into a miniature spring, forming a material unequalled for resiliency and hygiene. In summer, when hog hair is too short for this use, it is turned into fertilizer.

The bulk of the horse hair used in this business comes from South America, where the tails and manes of herds of wild or semi-wild horses are regularly

clipped. It takes about ten cattle switches to make a pound of clean curled hair, worth, at present prices, a little over 45 cents a pound in the raw state—

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**We buy and sell Hogs,
Cattle and Sheep on
commission only**

*We are the only Co-operative Live Stock
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Our No. 4 Ground Rock Salt and Gray
Blocks are best for

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We own and operate both a Rock Salt Mine
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AUTOMATIC

Currying-Dipping Machine

For Cattle and Hogs

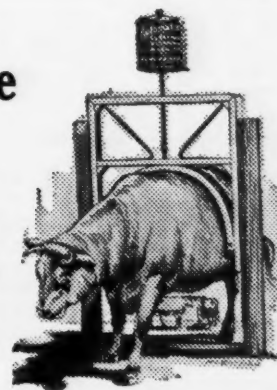
Nothing like it ever invented. Illustration shows how machine operates. Nothing to get out of order—works perfectly all the time. Cattle and hogs use it as condition of their skins and hides requires. Arch contains brushes for currying, through which a healing, disinfectant oil dip is automatically fed, which is spread all over the back, sides, neck, head, and gradually works down under belly and legs, giving a

Complete Dip and Cleansing

Not an experiment, but a proven machine that keeps away flies, cleanses the skin of cattle and hogs from vermin, insects, grub worms, etc. Makes cattle and hogs calm and restful instead of irritable and itchy. Cattle feeders who have used machine would not part with it at any price. One feeder writes: "It would be hard to estimate, in dollars and cents, the good it does for the cattle."

Works automatically—no oil waste. Spring adjustment fits machine to any size cattle. Every farmer who owns cattle and hogs needs this machine. Made in two sizes—one for cattle, one for hogs.

Automatic Currying and Dipping Machine Co., Pender, Neb.



that is, as it leaves the packing-house, and before it is chemically treated and put in condition suitable for the curled-hair plant. From the winter run of hogs about three-fourths of a pound of hair per animal is secured. While this is worth only about a fifth as much per pound as the cattle hair, the total value last year of the clip is estimated at three million dollars—considerably more in the pocket of the live-stock producer than in the case of the cattle hair, because so little of the latter is commercially valuable.

STOCK SHOW AT PHILADELPHIA

In connection with the Sesquicentennial International Exposition being held in Philadelphia this summer, in commemoration of the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, a big stock show will be staged during the week of September 12-19. More than 3,200 head of picked animals from the United States and Canada are expected to be placed on exhibition, with all the principal breeds represented. The amount of prize money offered will be in the neighborhood of \$75,000.

Pens and tent stalls are to be erected in the rear of the Palace of Agriculture, close to the railroad tracks, to facilitate loading and unloading. Each of the registry associations is placing its full force at the service of the show. An attendance of over one million visitors is expected.

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The arrangement of the practical details is in the expert hands of B. H. Heide, manager of the International Live Stock Show of Chicago, who will be assisted by a committee of nationally known breeders.

POISON BAITS DO NO HARM TO GAME BIRDS

The assumption that game birds may be killed by grain poisoned with strychnine and distributed to kill rodent pests has been found by the Biological Survey to be without foundation. Feeding tests have shown conclusively that the gallinaceous birds as a group, including the quail, the prairie-hen, the sharp-tailed grouse, and the sage-grouse, possess a certain immunity from strychnine poisoning.

Recent experiments have proved that birds having eaten as much as 300 kernels of poisoned wheat did not show the slightest symptoms of ill effect. They did, however, indicate a strong dislike for the poisoned grain.

INTRODUCING THE LLAMA INTO OUR WESTERN STATES

A fresh experiment with transplanting the llama and alpaca to the soil of our western states is reported to be under consideration. Several previous attempts at introducing these ruminants into the United States have been made during the past one hundred years, but all have met with failure, principally because the proper environment was not provided. Both are high-altitude animals, found only in the countries of western South America, where they have been domesticated, and are used as beasts of burden and for their long, wool-like hair, which is regularly clipped. The climate of our eastern and Gulf states is unsuitable to them.

However, our government is going to have its say in the matter of importation. In most of South America foot-and-mouth disease is firmly established, and no live stock may be brought in from countries where contagious animal diseases exist. This would seem to exclude most of the territory inhabited by these "dromedaries of the Andes."

THE POLO SHEEP

Ovis Poli, the wild sheep of the barren and treeless tablelands of central Asia known as the Pamir, and supposed to be the ancestor of all wild sheep, was originally discovered about the close of the thirteenth century by Marco Polo, a Venetian traveler who made his way

overland to China. Polo left us a description of the sheep, which bears his name; but, as nothing further was heard of it, the story in time came to be regarded as a romance, and the sheep was ranked with such mythical beasts as the dragon and the unicorn.

In the last century, however, Lieutenant John Wood, of the English army, again succeeded in penetrating the wastes of interior Asia, and proved the truth of Polo's tale by shooting a specimen of the sheep. Since then, as far as we know, it has been left in peace until Theodore and Kermit Roosevelt, sons of the late President, last year went on a hunting expedition into the same fastnesses and brought out several *Oves Poli*, the stuffed skins of which will now decorate American museums.

The Polo sheep is considered as representing an elder branch of the same family to which our western bighorn belongs. It is, however, much heavier, weighing around 300 pounds, and has a considerably wider spread of horns.

THE SPICE-BOX

A Matter of Subtraction.—Vicar—"What would happen if you were to break one of the Ten Commandments?" Willie—"Well, then there would be only nine."—*Christian Evangelist*.

Just Between Friends.—Business Man—"Yes, I advertised for a boy about your size. Do you smoke?"

Applicant—"No, thanks. But you kin blow me to an ice-cream soda if you want to."—*Boston Transcript*.

Perfectly Clear.—An Englishman, endeavoring to get a connection with a friend over the long-distance telephone, was having difficulty in making the operator understand the name of the exchange, which was Ealing. Finally, in desperation, he said: "E—for 'erbert, A—what 'orses eat, L—where yer goes to when yer dies, I—for ingine, them things in front of trains, N—what lays eggs, G—for gor-blime. Now, 'ave yer got it?"—*Elks' Magazine*.

When Al Got Tangled Up.—Governor Al Smith, of New York, one day appeared before the assembled convicts at Sing Sing to make a speech. Forgetting his audience, he began in the usual manner: "Fellow-citizens!" A murmur of laughter sounded through the room. The governor became fussed. "Fellow-convicts," he changed. Louder laughter. "Oh, you know what I mean," he stammered. "I mean I'm glad to see so many of you here."—*Harvard Lampoon*.

That's Different, My Dear.—Effie—"Why hasn't daddy much hair?"

Mother—"Because he thinks a lot, darling."

Effie (after a pause)—"But why have you got such a lot, mummie?"

Mother—"Get on with your breakfast!"—*London Opinion*.

Uniform Results

THE DEPENDABLE AND UNIFORM RESULTS FOR WHICH THE

O. M. Franklin

Blackleg Vaccine

is noted and outstanding are becoming more generally recognized year by year. This fact is evidenced by a larger sale and use of this vaccine during last year than during any like period in our history.

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Its dependability justifies its increasing popularity and use

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*Is Your Assurance of
Real Protection*

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Black Leaf 40 Dip
Arsenical Dip
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Barnes Calf D'Horners

Bovine Hemo. Sept. Bacterin
Bovine Hemo. Sept. Aggressin
Bovine Mixed Infection Bacterin
Ovine Hemo. Sept. Aggressin
Calf Scour Mixed Bacterin
Avian Hemo. Sept. Bacterin
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